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ABSTRACT

The 1992 National Health Interview Survey-Youth Risk Behavior Survey (NHIS-YRBS) studied 13,789 youth 12-21 years of age. This report presents the data according to sex, age, Hispanic origin, and race for youth of non-Hispanic origin. The 10 data tables cover: cigarette and other tobacco use, alcohol and other drug use, sexual experience, HIV/AIDS education, runaway and homeless experiences, violence, unintentional injury control, weight control, and participation in physical activities. Analysis of the data revealed that a substantial number of U.S. youth are engaging in risk-taking behaviors that can lead to chronic disease, injury, and death. A significant proportion had smoked cigarettes (59.9 percent), drunk alcohol (67.7 percent), and used illegal drugs (31 percent). Over 60 percent of all never-married youth 14-21 years of age had engaged in sexual intercourse at least once in their lifetime; 43.9 percent had had more than one sex partner. Nearly one-half of males (48.1 percent) and 29.4 percent of females had been in a physical fight in the previous year, and nearly 1 in 4 male youth (23.8 percent) had carried a weapon in the previous month. The survey data suggest opportunities to enhance the health of youth through early intervention on the part of parents, schools, and communities. Appendices include technical notes on the survey methodology and definition of terms used in the report. (Contains 51 references.) (ND)

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Series 10
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Vital and Health Statistics

From the CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION / National Center for Health Statistics

Health-Risk Behaviors Among Our Nation's Youth: United States, 1992

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Vital and Health Statistics

Health-Risk Behaviors Among Our Nation's Youth: United States, 1992

Series 10
Data From the National Health Interview Survey
No. 192

This report presents national estimates of the prevalence of selected health risk behaviors among youth ages 12–21 years, by sex, age, Hispanic origin, and race for youth of non-Hispanic origin. Topics include: cigarette and other tobacco use, alcohol and other drug use, sexual experience, HIV/AIDS education, runaway and homeless experiences, violence, unintentional injury control, weight control, and participation in physical activities. Data are from the 1992 National Health Interview Survey's Youth Risk Behavior Survey.

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National Center for Health Statistics

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June 1995
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Symbols

- - -	Data not available
. . .	Category not applicable
–	Quantity zero
*	Figure does not meet standard of reliability or precision
*–	Figure does not meet standard of reliability or precision and quantity zero
*0.0	Figure does not meet standard of reliability or precision and quantity is more than zero but less than 0.05

Health-Risk Behaviors Among Our Nation's Youth: United States, 1992

by Patricia F. Adams, Charlotte A. Schoenborn, M.P.H., Abigail J. Moss, Division of Health Interview Statistics, National Center for Health Statistics, Charles W. Warren, Ph.D., and Laura Kann, Ph.D., National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion

Introduction

Adolescence is a period of significant life transition, during which children cross the bridge into adulthood. Behaviors established during this period are often carried into adult life. Health behaviors established prior to adulthood can significantly influence health and longevity, both in the short term and later in life. Some behaviors, such as drug use, alcohol use, violence, and acquired immunodefiency syndrome (AIDS) can cut short a young life before chronic diseases generally associated with "bad habits" have a chance to take hold. If youth survive the immediate hazards of high risk behaviors, such as drug and alcohol use, onset of these behaviors during adolescence may increase the probability of significant adverse health effects later in life (1,2). Some adolescent risk-taking behaviors can also have significant social consequences as well. A notable example of such social consequences is unplanned pregnancies associated with sexual activity.

A relatively small number of risk behaviors established during youth contribute to the major health problems affecting our country (3). Until recently, data on prevalence of these behaviors and their possible predictors have been sparse. One notable exception is the Monitoring the Future (MTF) Project conducted by the Institute for Social Research at the University of Michigan (4,5). The MTF has been tracking smoking, alcohol, and drug use behaviors for almost 20 years in school-based settings and has contributed significantly to increased recognition of adolescent health as an important focus for public health policy. More recently, a number of other adolescent health surveys have been carried out, including the National Adolescent Student Health Survey (6–9), National Survey of Adolescent Males (10,11), and the Teenage Attitudes and Practices Survey (TAPS) (12). Each of these has contributed to a greater understanding of adolescent health issues. No longer children, but not yet adults, adolescents pose unique challenges both in terms of measurement of health and health related behavior and in terms of strategies needed to promote healthful habits and discourage behaviors demonstrated to have deleterious health consequences.

Studies of health outcomes of high-risk behaviors have focused almost exclusively on adults because of the long lag time between exposure and health outcomes for many behaviors. For example, it may be years or even decades before a person suffers permanent consequences from smoking, alcohol abuse, poor diet, or physical inactivity. Prevalence of chronic diseases associated with these behaviors are low in the young population, although physiological changes can be observed even in the young (13). Increasingly, however, we are seeing high-risk behaviors that do pose immediate and serious threats to our Nation's youth. Homicide, suicide, and alcohol-related motor vehicle fatalities are immediate and permanent health consequences of high-risk behaviors observed with increasing frequency among our Nation's young people (14). Similarly, although exposure may not be known for 10 years or longer, the fatal consequences of human immunodeficiency virus (HIV)—the virus that causes AIDS—resulting from unprotected sex and shared needles are another example of the permanent consequences of youthful risk taking (15). The longer term health consequences of alcohol and drug use, as well as smoking, poor eating habits, and physical inactivity are being seen at younger and younger ages as exposure begins earlier and earlier (16). By the time young people reach adulthood, some have already engaged in high-risk behaviors for many years.

Interrelationships among behaviors are of concern when studying health behaviors in general, but particularly so when studying adolescents. Adolescence is a period when uptake of behaviors, both good and bad, accelerates. Understanding relationships among and between behaviors may help health educators and health providers in their attempts to channel youth in a positive direction. Evidence has shown that not only are behaviors interrelated (17–19), but some behaviors likely serve as "gateways," increasing the likelihood of uptake of other behaviors (2,20,21).

Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System

Recognizing the importance of adolescent health issues and the limited information in this area, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) began development of a comprehensive surveillance system in the late 1980's. The system was designed specifically to monitor adolescent health behaviors in the U.S. population and to track progress toward achieving health objectives for the year 2000 for adolescents and young adults (3). For a comprehensive discussion of the health objectives for the Year 2000, see *Healthy People 2000* (22).

This system, termed the Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System (YRBSS), has three components:

- A national probability sample of high school students in grades 9–12, conducted by CDC
- State and local school-based surveys conducted by State and local education agencies in selected communities throughout the United States, with technical assistance from CDC
- A national, household-based interview of youth 12–21 years of age carried out as part of the 1992 National Health Interview Survey (NHIS).

The first two components of the YRBSS began data collection activities in 1990. Since 1991, school-based surveys have been carried out every other year. Selected findings from the 1990 national school-based survey have been published (23–34) as have findings from both the 1991 national school-based survey and selected State and local school-based surveys (35–39). Selected findings from the household-based National Health Interview Survey-Youth Risk Behavior Survey (NHIS-YRBS) component of the system have also been published (40,41). Detailed findings from the NHIS-YRBS are the subject of this report.

Household component of the Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System

The household interview component of the YRBSS, termed the National Health Interview Survey-Youth Risk Behavior Survey (NHIS-YRBS), was fielded as part of the 1992 NHIS. The NHIS is a continuous, nationwide, household interview survey of the civilian noninstitutionalized population of the United States, conducted by the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS)(42). Interviews are conducted for NCHS by the interviewing staff of the U.S. Bureau of the Census. Information is obtained about the health and sociodemographic characteristics of each member of the household. Each year, special topic surveys are fielded in conjunction with the basic NHIS. These topics change from year to year. The NHIS-YRBS was one of the special topic surveys conducted in 1992.

The NHIS-YRBS was a collaborative effort of the Division of Health Interview Statistics, NCHS, and the Division of Adolescent and School Health of the National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion. The survey was designed to complement the school-based components of the surveillance system.

Unique features of the National Health Interview Survey-Youth Risk Behavior Survey

The NHIS-YRBS was very similar to the school-based Youth Risk Behavior Surveys, but with some important differences. First, the household survey included out-of-school youth—an important subpopulation when studying high-risk behavior. Approximately 22 percent of the entire NHIS-YRBS sample (12–21 years of age) were classified as out-of-school. Among school age youth (12–19 years of age) who had not completed high school, 9 percent were classified as out-of-school (41). Comparison of in- and out-of-school youth in the NHIS-YRBS, revealed that youth who had left school prematurely (that is, not having graduated) exhibited higher rates of high-risk behaviors than youth who had remained in school (41).

Another unique feature of the NHIS-YRBS is that it included youth as young as 12 years of age, somewhat younger than the ages covered in the school-based surveys. In light of evidence of early onset of many health related behaviors (16,43), this feature adds important new information. The only questions in the NHIS-YRBS not asked of 12–13-year-old youth were those concerning sexual experiences.

The NHIS-YRBS also included youth 19–21 years of age, an age group also not covered by the YRBSS school-based surveys. These young adults have traditionally been included in surveys of adult health behavior, but their inclusion in the NHIS-YRBS allows more direct comparison between the health behavior patterns of these emerging adults and those of younger adolescents.

The NHIS-YRBS can also be linked to extensive health and demographic information for both the youth and the youth's family that was collected as part of the basic NHIS household interview. Such information is not available in the school-based surveys, which obtain information exclusively from the youth. The NHIS-YRBS has the potential for analysis of the relationship between youth behaviors and a variety of other important characteristics such as parents' educational status, family income, urban-rural residence, poverty level, health insurance coverage, as well as a host of health status characteristics. Only the three background characteristics (sex, age, and racial/Hispanic self-identification) that were obtained in each of the YRBSS surveys, both household-based and school-based, are shown in this report.

Data collection methodology

Based on information collected at the time of the basic NHIS interview, a roster was prepared listing all youth 12–21 years of age and their school status. From this roster, one in-school youth and up to two out-of-school youth from each family were randomly selected for the NHIS-YRBS. Youth in all NHIS sample families, including emancipated youth (that is married youth and/or those not living with a parent or guardian), were eligible for selection. Interviews took place approximately 2 months after the basic household interview, from April 1992 through March 1993. Information was collected directly from the youth, with parental permission. Youth were not asked for informed consent although they could refuse to participate.

Data were collected using an innovative audiocassette technology—developed in collaboration with researchers at University of Michigan's Survey Research Center (44). Extensive methodological testing was conducted during the development of the NHIS-YRBS to determine the optimal mode of data collection. Results indicated that, due to the sensitive

nature of the questions on the NHIS-YRBS, privacy and confidentiality would be of paramount concern to teens during the interview. Youth indicated that they would be more likely to answer questions honestly if the questions could not be heard by others in the household. Further, younger teens and those with poorer reading skills found a written questionnaire to be difficult to complete. For these reasons, questions were asked of teens using a personal audiocassette headset. The voice on the audiocassette was matched to the sex of the respondent: males heard a male voice and females heard a female voice. Each question was repeated twice. The youth controlled the cassette player and could stop, rewind, and replay as often as desired. Youth recorded their answers on an answer sheet that included only answer categories, not questions. In addition to providing privacy and being easier for poor readers, this mode of data collection had an added benefit of providing standardization in the asking of the questions, eliminating the normal variations that occur when an interviewer asks the questions.

Response rate and survey content

Of the 13,789 youth identified as eligible for the NHIS-YRBS, 10,645 completed questionnaires, representing an estimated 77.2 percent of eligible respondents. The estimated final response rate, including both the basic NHIS and the YRBS (95.7 • 77.2) was 73.9 percent.

The NHIS-YRBS questionnaire contained most of the content areas of other YRBSS instruments, including tobacco, alcohol, and other drug use; intentional and unintentional injury control; dietary behaviors; physical activity; and sexual behavior. The only category of questions not included on the NHIS-YRBS that were contained in the school-based surveys were those related to suicide. These were felt to be too sensitive for a national, household-based survey. In many cases, the NHIS-YRBS used the same question wording as the school-based surveys. The main exception was in questions that addressed school-based issues, such as participation in physical education classes. In these cases, question wording was modified to be appropriate for a general household sample.

Unlike the other YRBSS components that are conducted periodically, the NHIS-YRBS was designed to collect data for a single year. While some parts of it may be included in future NHIS special topic surveys, there currently are no plans to repeat the entire survey.

A brief description of the survey design, the methods used in estimation, and general qualifications of the data obtained from the survey are presented in appendix I. More detailed information about the NHIS is available in *Current Estimates, 1992* (42). For some tables, a number of questions were combined into a summary measure in order to allow for a more meaningful interpretation of the data. These summary measures, along with other terms used in this report, are defined in appendix II. The NHIS-YRBS questionnaire has been previously published (42).

Content of this report

The data presented in this report have been weighted to be representative of the population of youth 12–21 years of age residing in households in the United States. Estimates of the numbers of youth engaging in particular behaviors can be obtained by multiplying the percents shown in tables 1–10 by the appropriate population tables shown in appendix I. Topics covered in this report include cigarette and other tobacco use, alcohol use, drug use and perceptions of associated risks, sexual experience, AIDS education, runaway and homeless experiences, violence, unintentional injury control, weight control, and physical activity.

In this report data are presented for youth 12–21 years of age, according to sex, age, and Hispanic origin. Data for non-Hispanic youth are presented separately for white and black youth. Non-Hispanic youth of other racial designations are not shown separately but are included in the estimates for all youth 12–21 years of age. Data for Hispanic youth are presented separately for three categories:

- All Hispanic
- Mexican American, which includes youth reported as Mexican/Mexicano, Mexican American, or Chicano
- Other Hispanic, which includes youth reported as Puerto Rican, Cuban, other Latin American, other Spanish, or multiple Hispanic origin

While these Hispanic youth may be of any racial designation, data from the U.S. Bureau of the Census suggest that over 90 percent of Hispanic individuals identify their race as white (45).

Data on both race and Hispanic origin were collected in the 1992 NHIS in more detailed categories than those presented in this report (see appendix II). However, the data in this report could not be presented in such detail because the numbers of youth in these categories would be too small to allow for meaningful statistical interpretations (see appendix I). Data for Mexican American youth are presented separately because the numbers of Mexican American youth were sometimes sufficiently large to support separate analyses. Although data are presented for this group separately, considerations of statistical reliability and significance testing frequently led to comparisons between non-Hispanic youth and all Hispanic youth rather than the smaller, Mexican American subgroup. It is important to note that the category "all youth 12–21" and the two categories "all Hispanic" and "other Hispanic," in particular, consist of a number of race-ethnic subgroups whose demographic, social, economic, cultural, and health profiles are quite varied. (See appendixes I and II for more information on the composition of the "other Hispanic" category.) Consequently the findings for these broad groups may mask important subgroup differences in health-risk behaviors. Selected health data for individuals belonging to various racial and Hispanic subgroups may be found in other NCHS publications (46,47).

In almost all cases, findings for Hispanic and non-Hispanic subgroups are presented for all ages (except for age of initiation in tables 1–4). The age distributions of the various

Hispanic and non-Hispanic subgroups are similar, thereby allowing comparisons between the groups.

Although this report does not show full details on all possible response categories, it does provide fairly detailed information for many questions. An effort was made to present the data in sufficient detail to allow the reader to determine prevalence for various levels of risk. For example, youth were asked the number of days they had had a drink of alcohol in their lifetime. Responses are shown for six categories: never, 1–2 days, 3–9 days, 10–39 days, 40–99 days, and 100 days or more. Using these categories, the reader can determine prevalence of drinking on 1 or more days, 3 or more days, etc. This provides some flexibility in interpreting the data. For readers wishing to combine the data in different ways or look at more detailed response categories, the data are available on tape and CD-ROM. (See appendix I for details.) In some cases, the level of detail, shown in tables 1–10, although desirable from the standpoint of allowing readers flexibility in determining risk behaviors, is too detailed to be easily interpreted without summarizing across categories. For this reason, the discussion often focuses on summary statistics that were derived by adding the percentages presented in the detailed tables. For example, youth were asked, the number of times they smoked cigarettes in the past 30 days. The percentages of youth responding that they smoked "1–2 days," "3–9 days," "10–29 days," and "all 30 days" were summed to arrive at an estimate of the percent of youth who were current smokers. Due to rounding, these estimates may be slightly different from those that would have been obtained had percents been calculated using full frequencies. Any differences between the two would be negligible and have no effect on interpretation.

Data for age of initiation in tables 1–4 are shown only for youth 18–21 years of age. The questions were asked of all youth but are not readily interpretable for youth under 18 years of age.

For this report, persons for whom information was missing for any individual questionnaire item were excluded from the analysis of that item. Because of the exclusion of persons with unknown responses for individual items, the denominators for each question vary slightly. Two population tables included in appendix I show the size of the two main subpopulations shown in this report, including youth for whom selected individual items of information may have been missing. These subpopulations are youth 12–21 years of age for tables 1–3 and tables 5–10, and youth 14–21 years of age for table 4. Using these population tables, estimates can be made of the numbers of youth engaging in particular behaviors. These estimates will vary only slightly, if at all, from estimates that would have been obtained had exact denominators been published for each table.

Because the estimates shown in this report are based on a sample of the population, they are subject to sampling errors. Formulas for computing sampling errors are shown in appendix I. These formulas, combined with the denominators from the appendix tables I and II, allow the reader to calculate standard errors for each statistic in this report.

In this report, terms such as "similar" and "no difference" mean that there is no statistically significant difference between the measures being compared. Terms relating to difference (for example, "greater than" or "less than") indicate that differences are statistically significant. Individual t-tests, with a critical value of 1.96 (0.05 level of significance), were used to test all comparisons. Although it highlights major findings, this strategy does not take into account hypothesis testing issues associated with multiple comparisons, where a statistic is potentially compared for more than two domains. Lack of comment regarding the difference between any two statistics does not mean the difference was tested and found to be not significant.

It is hoped that this report will serve as a reference document to allow researchers and policy planners to assess the prevalence of selected high-risk behaviors in the adolescent population of the United States. It is also designed to stimulate further research on the interrelationships and determinants of behaviors that influence health. The NHIS-YRBS is available on data tape from the Division of Health Interview Statistics and is available on CD-ROM from the U.S. Government Printing Office and from the National Technical Information Service. Contact the National Center for Health Statistics' Data Dissemination Branch for ordering information. The NHIS-YRBS public-use data file includes data for all questions included in the youth risk behavior questionnaire as well as all other health and demographic information gathered during the initial household interview. For youth 18–21 years of age, data from the NHIS-YRBS can be linked to other special topics that were part of the 1992 NHIS, including AIDS Knowledge and Attitudes, Cancer Control, Cancer Epidemiology, and Family Resources. Additional findings related to adolescent health behavior have been published by NCHS (12,48,49).

Highlights

Highlights of the data contained in this report for 1992 are summarized in the following statements:

Smoking

- About one-half (49.9 percent) of youth 12–21 years of age had smoked a whole cigarette in their lifetime and another 10.0 percent had taken a few puffs.
- Non-Hispanic white youth were more likely to have smoked a whole cigarette (53.8 percent) than non-Hispanic black youth (37.9 percent) or Hispanic youth (45.6 percent).
- Just over two-thirds (69.4 percent) of 12–13-year-old smokers had tried to quit smoking compared with 56.6 percent of 14–17-year-old smokers and 49.8 percent of 18–21-year-old smokers.

Alcohol and other drugs

- About two-thirds (67.7 percent) of our Nation's youth have had at least one drink of alcohol in their lifetime.
- Overall, 44.9 percent of youth had had a drink in the past month.
- Drinking was more prevalent among non-Hispanic white adolescents than among non-Hispanic black adolescents.
- One in four adolescents (25.6 percent) had had five or more drinks in a row in the past month.
- Over one-fourth (29.5 percent) of adolescent drinkers of driving age had gotten behind the wheel after drinking in the past month.
- Nearly one-third (31 percent) of youth had used some type of illegal drug in their lifetime.
- About one in four youth (27.5 percent) had tried marijuana and 5.9 percent had tried cocaine.
- Seventy percent of all youth thought *occasional* drug use posed significant health risks; 89.8 percent thought *regular* use put people at risk.
- Among drug users, females were more likely than males to believe that harm could come from drug use; no gender differences were found among youth who had never used drugs.

Sexual experiences

- About 6 in 10 (60.9 percent) never-married youth 14–21 years of age had had sexual intercourse—ranging from 31.6 percent for youth 14–15 years of age to 78.9 percent for those 18–21 years of age.
- Nearly 8 in 10 (79.1 percent) non-Hispanic black teens had had sexual intercourse compared with 58.2 percent of non-Hispanic white and 56.5 percent of Hispanic teens.
- Among sexually experienced youth, 18.8 percent of non-Hispanic white youth had used alcohol or drugs the last time they had sex in contrast with 12.7 percent of non-Hispanic black youth.
- About one-half of all sexually experienced teens reported that they or their partner had used a condom during their last sexual intercourse—57.7 percent of males and 44.9 percent of females.
- About 8 in 10 (81.5 percent) adolescents had received HIV/AIDS education in school; 68.6 percent had discussed HIV/AIDS with a parent or an adult family member.

Runaway-homeless experiences

- About one in six (15.8 percent) teens had stayed out overnight without permission within the past year.
- About one in seven (13.8 percent) teens had stayed overnight at an at-risk location within the past year.

Violence

- Physical fighting within the past year was more common among male adolescents (48.1 percent) than female adolescents (29.4 percent).
- About one in seven (14.8 percent) teens had carried a weapon at least one day during the past month.
- Of weapon-carrying teens, non-Hispanic black teens (30.2 percent) were more likely than non-Hispanic white teens (21.9 percent) and Hispanic teens (17.2 percent) to most often have carried a firearm during the past month.

Unintentional injury control

- About one-third (34.2 percent) of all youth always used seat belts while riding in a car driven by somone else—38.6 percent of females and 29.9 percent of males.
- About 4 out of 10 (44.1 percent) adolescent motorcycle riders had consistently worn a helmet.
- Less than 2 out of 100 teen bicycle riders had consistently worn a helmet.
- Among teens who had gone swimming, 28.0 percent swam unsupervised most of the time.

Weight control

- Females (43.4 percent) were nearly twice as likely as males (24.1 percent) to think they were overweight.
- Non-Hispanic white adolescent males and females were more likely than their non-Hispanic black adolescent counterparts to perceive themselves as overweight.
- Overall, of youth who were trying to lose or keep from gaining weight in the past week, 86.3 percent had exercised and 47.3 percent had dieted.

Physical activity

- Overall, 97.8 percent of all teens engaged in at least one physical activity in the past week—about one-half took part in five activities or more.
- Males were more likely than females to participate in vigorous exercise 3 or more days per week.

Findings

Tobacco

Table 1 shows tobacco use habits of U.S. youth. Overall, about one-half of youth 12–21 years of age had smoked a whole cigarette in their lifetime and another 10 percent had taken a few puffs. Prevalence of having smoked a whole cigarette increased sharply with age. About one in five 12–13-year-old youth had smoked a whole cigarette compared with about one-half of 14–17-year-old youth and fully two-thirds of youth 18–21 years of age. Across all age groups, about 1 in 10 youth had tried a few puffs of a cigarette but no more. Male and female adolescents did not differ in terms of rates of having smoked a whole cigarette.

Race and Hispanic differences in cigarette smoking are noteworthy. Non-Hispanic white youth were more likely to have smoked a whole cigarette (53.8 percent) than non-Hispanic black youth (37.9 percent) and Hispanic youth (45.6 percent). The higher smoking prevalence among non-Hispanic white youth was true for both males and females.

Youth responding to the NHIS-YRBS were asked the age at which they first smoked a whole cigarette. Age of initiation is only meaningful for the 18–21-year-old age group. Table 1 shows that among these young adults, male smokers were slightly more likely than female smokers to have started smoking at younger ages: 13.8 percent of males had started smoking by age 10 years compared with 7.9 percent of females.

For adolescents, a current smoker is generally defined as a youth who has smoked at least one cigarette in the past 30 days. A comprehensive definition of smoking status, which identifies not only current smokers but also experimenters and former smokers, has been developed for both the NHIS-YRBS and other adolescent surveys, and estimates have been published (12,19). Although several variables contribute to the definition of adolescent smoking status, a crucial component is whether or not the youth smoked in the past month—derived from the question on the number of days smoked in the 30 days preceding the date of interview. Youth who indicated that they smoked on at least 1 day in the past 30 days were considered current smokers. Estimates based on this single item differ only slightly from those that include several smoking-related questions, the differences being due to the greater number of unknowns excluded from the more complex variable.

Table 1 shows that among youth under 18 years of age, prevalence of current smoking was about the same for males and females. In the 18–21-year-old age group, current smoking rates were higher among males (40.4 percent) than among females (34.8 percent) (figure 1). Across all ages 12–21 years, males reported smoking a greater number of cigarettes on days they smoked. Overall, 30.9 percent of adolescent male smokers and 23.4 percent of adolescent female smokers had smoked 10 cigarettes or more on days they smoked.

Cigarette smoking prevalence increased with age during the teen years for both sexes. Not only were older adolescents more likely than younger adolescents to have smoked in the past 30 days (that is, be considered current smokers), those who had smoked were more likely to have smoked every day. Figure 2 shows rates of daily smoking for youth who had smoked at least once in the past month: about 1 in 10 smokers 12–13 years of age had smoked daily compared with about one-third of smokers 14–17 years of age and over one-half of those 18–21 years of age.

In terms of both number of days smoked and number of cigarettes smoked daily, non-Hispanic white youth were by far heavier consumers of tobacco than youth in the other race-ethnic groups studied: 15.5 percent of all non-Hispanic white males said they had smoked daily in the past month compared with 5.9 percent of all non-Hispanic black males, 6.4 percent of Mexican American males, and 10.6 percent of other His-

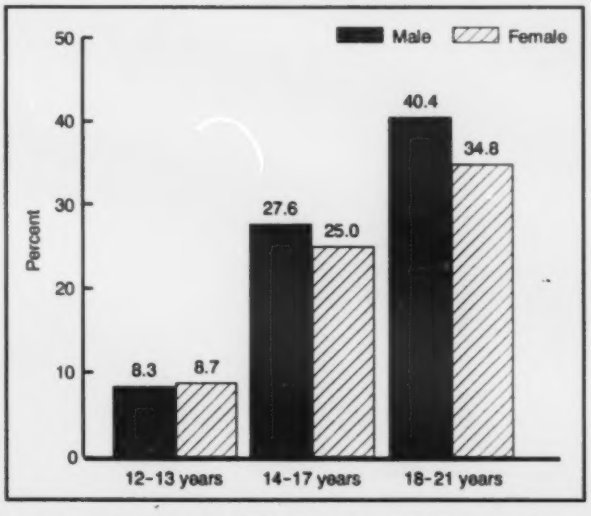

Figure 1. Percent of youth 12–21 years of age who had smoked cigarettes in the past 30 days, by sex and age: United States, 1992

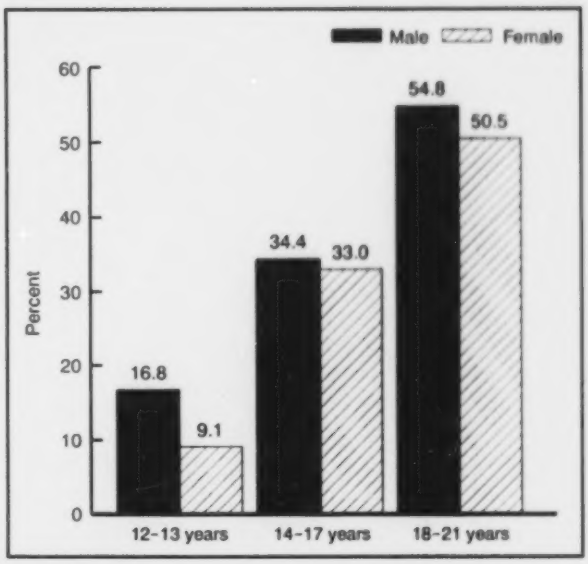

Figure 2. Percent of current smokers 12–21 years of age who had smoked cigarettes daily in the past month, by sex and age: United States, 1992

panic males. Among non-Hispanic white males who had smoked, 35.5 percent had smoked at least 10 cigarettes on days they smoked compared with 15.3 percent of non-Hispanic black male smokers, 15.8 percent of Mexican American male smokers, and 23.8 percent of other Hispanic male smokers. Similarly, non-Hispanic white females 12–21 years of age were considerably more likely than their non-Hispanic black or Hispanic peers to have smoked often and heavily.

Youth responding to the NHIS-YRBS were asked whether or not they had ever smoked regularly, defined as at least one cigarette a day for 30 days. As with daily smoking, history of having ever smoked regularly increased with age, from 4.7 percent of youth 12–13 years of age to 34.5 percent of youth 18–21 years of age. Attempts to quit smoking, on the other hand, became less common with increasing age: 69.4 percent of the youngest adolescent smokers had tried to quit in the past 6 months compared with 56.6 percent of those 14–17 years of age and 49.8 percent of young adult smokers. Among adolescent smokers 14 years of age and older, females were somewhat more likely than males to have tried to quit. Among youth 14–17 years of age, 61.5 percent of females had tried to quit smoking in the past 6 months compared with 52.2 percent of males. Of the young adults surveyed, 52.3 percent of female smokers had at least one quit attempt compared with 47.5 percent of male smokers.

Prevalence of use of chewing tobacco and snuff was much lower than for cigarette smoking. Overall, 13.5 percent of male youth and 1.5 percent of female youth had used either chewing tobacco or snuff or both in the past 30 days. Rates of use were extremely low across all female subgroups, ranging 0–2 percent. Rates were higher for males: 4.8 percent of 12–13-year-old males reported using one of these tobacco products, and about 16 percent of males in the two older age groups had done so. Marked race and ethnic variations were also noted among adolescent males: 17.7 percent of non-Hispanic white males had used snuff or chewing tobacco compared with 3.5 percent of non-Hispanic black males and 4–6 percent of males in the Hispanic subgroups. Of the two tobacco products, adolescents were more likely to use snuff than chewing tobacco.

In summary, the data suggest that smoking rates increase with age and that, overall, males and females have similar patterns of use. Racial and ethnic differences were found across every measure of tobacco use, with non-Hispanic white youth reporting considerably higher rates than non-Hispanic black or Hispanic youth. Further, the overall similarity in smoking behavior between male and female youth was found to be due almost exclusively to behavior among non-Hispanic white youth. Among both non-Hispanic black and Hispanic youth, males reported greater use of cigarettes than females, although the differences were usually modest.

Alcohol use

Table 2 shows selected indicators of alcohol use among U.S. adolescents. Overall, about two-thirds of our Nation's youth have had at least one drink of alcohol in their lifetime. No differences were found between adolescent males and females in rates of having tried alcohol. As with tobacco, prevalence of alcohol use increased sharply with age: slightly more than one-fourth of youth 12–13 years of age had drunk alcohol compared with about two-thirds of youth 14–17 years of age and nearly 90 percent of those 18–21 years of age. For both males and females, non-Hispanic white youth were more likely than non-Hispanic black youth to have had at least one drink in their lives. For Hispanic males, the rate of ever having had a drink was intermediate between non-Hispanic white males and non-Hispanic black males and not statistically different from either. In contrast, Hispanic females had a lower rate of ever drinking alcohol than non-Hispanic white females; their rate was identical to that of non-Hispanic black females.

Youth interviewed in the NHIS-YRBS were asked at what age they had their first drink of alcohol. Age of first drink, like age of first cigarette, is only meaningful for the age group 18–21 years. Overall, 15.8 percent of young adults who had had at least one drink said they had had their first drink by 12 years of age; nearly 4 out of 10 (38.1 percent) had had their first drink by age 14. Men were more likely than women to have had their first drink at a very young age: 20.6 percent of young men who ever drank had had their first drink by the age of 12 compared with 11.3 percent of young adult female drinkers.

Table 2 provides estimates of the number of days in their lifetime that youth had at least one drink of alcohol. Number of days that youth consumed alcohol in a lifetime provides an indication of the extent to which youth may be doing more than experimenting with alcohol. Nondrinkers are included in the denominator so that the estimates of number of days a youth drank reflect prevalence in the adolescent population as a whole, not just the population of drinkers.

As might be expected, older youth reported more episodes of alcohol consumption in their lifetimes than younger youth. Alcohol consumption among the youngest group of teens appears to be more experimental than routine, with 2.7 percent of youth 12–13 years old having drunk alcohol 40 days or more in their young lives. Among youth 14–17 years of age, 13.9 percent reported this many episodes of drinking and by ages 18–21 years, 39.4 percent had consumed alcohol on at least 40 days in their lives. In the youngest age group, males and females did not differ significantly in terms of number of lifetime episodes of drinking, but among youth 14 years of age and older, reports of 40 or more episodes of drinking were more common for males than females.

Race and ethnic differences in drinking histories were also found. Non-Hispanic white youth, both male and female, were considerably more likely than their non-Hispanic black or Hispanic contemporaries to have consumed alcohol on 40 days or more in their lives and were more than twice as likely to have drunk on 100 days or more.

For adolescents, current drinking is generally defined as any use of alcohol in the past 30 days. The NHIS-YRBS included a question on the number of days a youth drank in the past month. Youth who had had a drink on at least 1 day are considered current drinkers in this discussion.

Overall, 44.9 percent of youth 12–21 years of age were current drinkers. Current drinking increased sharply with age: 13.7 percent of youth 12–13 years of age had had at least one drink in the past month compared with 39.8 percent of youth 14–17 years of age and 65.6 percent of those who had reached young adulthood. Among adolescents younger than 18 years, no sex differences were found in prevalence of current drinking (figure 3). Among those 18–21 years of age, men (68.0 percent) were somewhat more likely than women (63.3 percent) to have had a drink in the past 30 days. In this young adult age group, males (16.4 percent) also were about twice as likely as females (7.9 percent) to have engaged in drinking on at least 10 of the past 30 days.

Non-Hispanic white youth, both males (47.9 percent) and females (47.8 percent), and Mexican American male youth (48.9 percent) were the most likely to be current drinkers of all the race-ethnic-sex groups examined. Rates of current drinking were lower among non-Hispanic black males (40.2 percent), non-Hispanic black females (35.7 percent), and Mexican American females (35.2 percent).

Not only was drinking prevalence among our Nation's youth quite high in 1992, episodic heavy drinking (defined as five or more drinks within a couple of hours) was also common. About one in four adolescents interviewed said they had had five or more drinks in a row in the past month. Males and females 12–17 years of age were equally likely to have engaged in this behavior. Among youth 18–21 years of age, however, males were more likely (48.5 percent) than females (31.9 percent) to have engaged in recent episodic heavy drinking. Episodic heavy drinking was more prevalent among non-Hispanic white youth than among non-Hispanic black youth. Almost one-third (32.7 percent) of non-Hispanic white males reported recently drinking five or more drinks in a row compared with 18.9 percent non-Hispanic black males. These

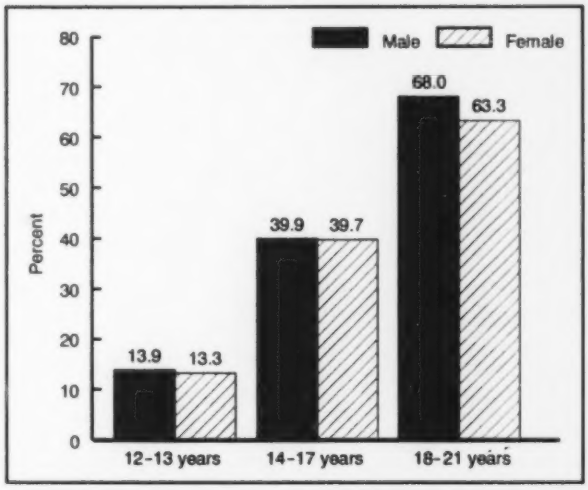

Figure 3. Percent of youth 12–21 years of age who drank alcohol in the past 30 days, by sex and age: United States, 1992

racial differences were even more striking for females: 26.2 percent of non-Hispanic white adolescent females had had five drinks or more in a row in the past 30 days compared with 10.1 percent of non-Hispanic black females. Mexican American males (30.0 percent) engaged in episodic heavy drinking at about the same rate as non-Hispanic white males (32.7 percent). The rate for Mexican American females (15.8 percent), on the other hand, was well below the rate for non-Hispanic white females (26.2 percent) but still higher than that of non-Hispanic black females (10.1 percent).

Drinking and driving is of major public health concern in the United States today. Alcohol-related motor vehicle accidents are the leading causes of death among our Nation's young people (22). Table 2 presents data on drinking and driving in the past month for current drinkers 16–21 years of age. It also shows prevalence of riding with a driver who had been drinking for all youth 12–21 years of age, regardless of drinking status.

Overall, 29.5 percent of adolescent drinkers 16–21 years of age (driving age) had driven in the past month after drinking alcohol. This behavior was more prevalent among male youth (34.7 percent) than among female youth (24.2 percent) and, as with other alcohol-related behaviors, increased with age. Among males, prevalence of drinking and driving was about the same for non-Hispanic white (36.4 percent), non-Hispanic black (33.5 percent), and Mexican American youth (34.4 percent). In contrast, Mexican American females (31.1 percent) and non-Hispanic white females (25.8 percent) were more likely than non-Hispanic black (17.7 percent) and other Hispanic females (12 percent) to have drunk alcohol and then driven in the past month.

Overall, 24.9 percent of all youth said they had ridden in a car or other vehicle in the past month with a driver who had been drinking, rising from 11.7 percent of youth 12–13 years of age to 34.8 percent of youth 18–21 years of age. Unlike most other alcohol-related behaviors, riding in a vehicle with a driver who had been drinking did not appear to be related to race or ethnicity.

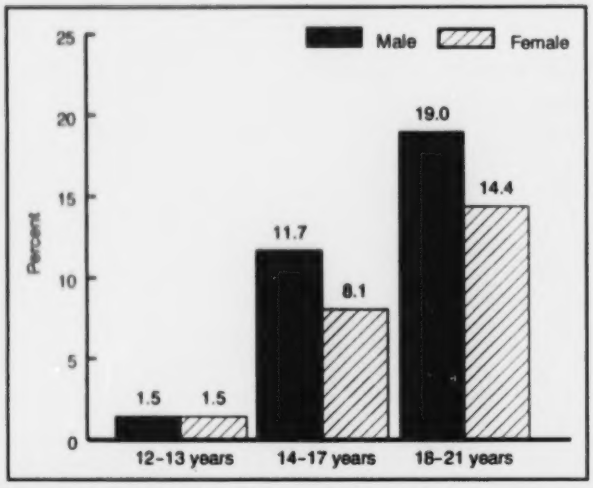

Figure 4. Percent of youth 12–21 years of age who used marijuana in the past 30 days, by sex and age: United States, 1992

In summary, a significant percentage of our Nation's youth 12–21 years of age are drinking alcohol, despite the fact that most of them are still under the legal drinking age. In 1992, nearly one out of every two youth had had a drink in the past 30 days. Overall, male and female adolescents were about equally as likely to drink, although males were more likely to drink larger quantities and to drink more often. Non-Hispanic white youth drank alcohol more often than non-Hispanic black or Hispanic youth, with the possible exception of Mexican American males whose drinking habits in some cases were very similar to non-Hispanic white adolescent males. The statistics on drinking and driving suggest that, despite significant efforts to discourage youth and adults alike from driving under the influence or riding with anyone who has been drinking, a significant number of young people are engaging in this high-risk behavior.

Drug use and perceptions of risk

Table 3 shows lifetime and 30-day use of illegal drugs among U.S. youth, including marijuana, cocaine, crack, and steroids as well as lifetime use of any other type of illegal drugs, including LSD, PCP, ecstasy, mushrooms, speed, ice, heroin, or pills without a doctor's prescription. Data are also shown on perceptions of the risks associated with occasional and regular drug use, according to respondent drug use status.

Overall, nearly one-third (31.0 percent) of youth 12–21 years of age had used some type of illegal drug at some time in their lives. The percent of youth who had used illegal drugs ranged from 7.3 percent of youth 12–13 years of age to 49.0 percent of those 18–21 years of age, with use among youth 14–17 years of age falling in between (25.9 percent). Differences between males and females were found only among youth 18–21 years of age, with males (50.8 percent) slightly more likely than females (47.2) to have had some experience with illegal drugs.

Race and ethnic variations in illegal drug use were noted. Among males, non-Hispanic white youth (33.4 percent) were more likely than non-Hispanic black youth (27.5 percent) to have used drugs at some time in their lives. Rates of drug use among Hispanic males (29.9 percent) were statistically similar to those of non-Hispanic white males (33.4 percent). Rates of drug use for non-Hispanic white females (33.5 percent) were higher than for both non-Hispanic black females (23.1 percent) and Hispanic females (25.5 percent).

Findings for lifetime marijuana use showed patterns similar to those for all drugs combined. Overall, 27.5 percent of adolescents 12–21 years of age had ever used marijuana. Although a very small percentage (3.7 percent) of the youngest group of adolescents had used marijuana, about one in five (21.5 percent) youth 14–17 years of age and nearly one out of two (46.4 percent) youth 18–21 years of age had engaged in this high-risk behavior. No statistically significant differences between males and females in marijuana use were found between non-Hispanic white males (29.6 percent) and non-Hispanic white females (30.1 percent) or between non-Hispanic black males (24.5 percent) and non-Hispanic black females (20.9 percent). Differences between males and females were found among Hispanic youth, however, with Hispanic males showing a higher rate (27.3 percent) than Hispanic females (20.3 percent).

As with all other statistics related to age of initiation, estimates for age first used marijuana are only interpretable for youth 18–21 years of age. Among marijuana users in this age group, 13.0 percent had first used the drug by the age of 12; another 22.0 percent had first used it by 13–14 years of age. Thus, over one-third of young adult marijuana users had started using the drug by 14 years of age.

The NHIS-YRBS included a question on the number of times youth had used marijuana in their lifetime. Such a measure can be considered an indication of the extent to which use has been experimental or habitual, although the boundary between these two classifications is far from distinct. Table 3 suggests that, at the younger ages, use is largely experimental, but is more habitual at older ages. For example, 1.2 percent of youth 12–13 years of age had used marijuana more than once or twice in their lives compared with 14.8 percent of youth 14–17 years of age and 35.7 percent of those 18–21 years of age. In the oldest age group, nearly 1 in 10 youth had used marijuana at least 100 times.

Current marijuana users are defined as youth who have used marijuana in the past 30 days. Table 3 shows that 10.8 percent of youth 12–21 years of age were current marijuana users in 1992—with males reporting slightly higher rates of use (12.3 percent) than females (9.3 percent). As with all addictive substances studied, rates of use increased markedly with age. One and one-half percent of youth 12–13 years of age were current marijuana users compared with 10.1 percent of adolescents 14–17 years of age and 16.7 percent of young adults 18–21 years of age. Modest differences were found between males and females in the two older groups, with males slightly more likely than females to be current users (figure 4). Race and ethnic variations were found among female adolescents: non-Hispanic white females (10.6 percent) were more likely than non-Hispanic black females (5.9 percent) and Hispanic females (7.8 percent) to have used mari-

juana in the past 30 days. Males had similar prevalence rates across all race and ethnic groups shown.

Rates of cocaine use were substantially lower than rates of marijuana use, but even these relatively small percentages represent large numbers of youth putting themselves at risk for serious health and social consequences of drug use. Overall, 5.9 percent of all youth had tried some form of cocaine in their lifetime. Among youth 18–21 years of age, the estimate was 12 percent. Non-Hispanic black youth (2.5 percent) were less likely than both non-Hispanic white (6.5 percent) and Hispanic youth (7.0 percent) to have tried cocaine. Lifetime cocaine use was highest among Mexican American males; nearly 1 in 10 (9.4 percent) young Mexican American men had tried cocaine at least once.

Repeated use of cocaine and current use (use in the past 30 days) were relatively rare in the adolescent population. Overall, 2.1 percent of all youth had used cocaine 10 times or more in their lifetime, the highest rate (5.0 percent) found among males 18–21 years of age. Overall, 1.2 percent of all youth had used the drug in the past month, with the highest prevalence reported by Mexican American males (4.1 percent).

The NHIS-YRBS included a separate question that asked youth specifically about ever having used crack or freebase forms of cocaine. Of all youth 12–21 years of age, 2.9 percent said they had used crack or freebase forms of cocaine. As with other drugs studied, use rates increased with age, the highest rates being found among 18–21-year-old males (6.3 percent) and females (4.9 percent). Of the race-ethnic groups examined, Mexican American youth were the most likely (4.4 percent) to have used crack sometime in their life.

Table 3 also includes a summary estimate for use of drugs other than marijuana and cocaine, including LSD, PCP, ecstasy, mushrooms, speed, ice, heroin, and pills without a doctor's prescription. Overall, 12.6 percent of all youth reported use of such drugs. Use of these drugs increased sharply with age, from 2.8 percent of youth 12–13 years to 10.4 percent of youth 14–17 years, and 20.0 percent of those in the 18–21-year-old age group. Use of these other drugs was most common among non-Hispanic white youth (15.5 percent) and least common among non-Hispanic black youth (3.3 percent), with estimates for Hispanic adolescents in the middle (9.8 percent). Use of these drugs may have been in addition to use of marijuana and/or cocaine, or they may be the only drug used by the adolescent. No noteworthy variations by sex were found.

Steroid use appears to be relatively uncommon. Overall, 2.0 percent of male adolescents and 0.7 percent of female adolescents said they had ever taken steroid pills or shots without a doctor's prescription. Although rare, the very serious potential health consequences of this behavior make even these low prevalence estimates worthy of note.

Table 3 also shows adolescents' perceptions of how much people risk harming themselves by using illegal drugs occasionally and regularly, according to the adolescents' own drug use status. Overall, 70.0 percent of youth 12–21 years of age thought that occasional drug use posed significant health risks; 89.8 percent thought that regular use of drugs put people at risk. Female adolescents who had ever used drugs were more likely than their male counterparts to feel that harm could come from using drugs: 60.5 percent of female drug users compared with 48.4 percent of male drug users thought a lot of harm could come from *occasional* drug use; 90.1 percent of female users compared with 81.6 percent of male users thought *regular* use would bring a lot of harm. Among youth who had never used drugs—both males and females—about 3 out of 4 felt a lot of harm could come from *occasional* drug use and about 9 out of 10 felt such harm could come from *regular* drug use.

Among youth who had used drugs, non-Hispanic white adolescents were much less likely than were non-Hispanic black or Hispanic youth to associate *occasional* drug use with high-risk. Among males, 44.3 percent of non-Hispanic white youth who had used drugs said *occasional* drug use posed high-risks compared with 62.5 percent of non-Hispanic black males with some drug experience and 59.0 percent of Hispanic males with similar experience. Similarly, 57.9 percent of non-Hispanic white females who had used drugs thought *occasional* drug use put people at high-risk compared with 74.9 percent of non-Hispanic black females and 64.3 percent of Hispanic females.

In summary, a significant percentage of our Nation's youth have used illegal drugs. In 1992, nearly one-third (31.0 percent) of the teens 12–21 years of age had used some type of illegal drug in their lives; about one-fourth (27.5 percent) had used marijuana. Rates for ever having used cocaine (5.9 percent), steroids (1.3 percent), and other drugs (12.6 percent) were lower. Differences between males and females and race-ethnic differences varied somewhat by the type of drug but in all cases, use rates increased with age. In general non-Hispanic white youth had the highest rates of drug use, although Mexican American males had rates similar to non-Hispanic white males in some cases. Mexican American males had the highest rate of current (past 30 days) cocaine use (4.1 percent) of any race or ethnic group examined.

Sexual experience

Table 4 presents data on selected indicators related to sexual experiences for never-married youth 14–21 years of age. Questions included ever having had sexual intercourse, age of first sexual intercourse, number of sexual partners, use of alcohol or drugs before last sex, condom use, and contraceptive method used when last had sex.

Overall, 60.9 percent of never-married youth reported ever having had sexual intercourse, with males more likely than females to report ever having had sex (63.0 and 58.6 percent, respectively). About one out of three youth 14–15 years of age had had sexual intercourse, and by 18–21 years of age almost four out of five were sexually experienced. Of sexually experienced males 18–21 years of age, 12.1 percent had had their first sexual intercourse by 12 years of age compared with 3.0 percent of sexually experienced females. Data shown in table 4 concerning age of initiation of sexual intercourse are shown only for those youth 18–21 years of age.

The percent of non-Hispanic black teens (79.1 percent) who had had sexual intercourse was significantly higher than the percent of non-Hispanic white teens (58.2 percent) and

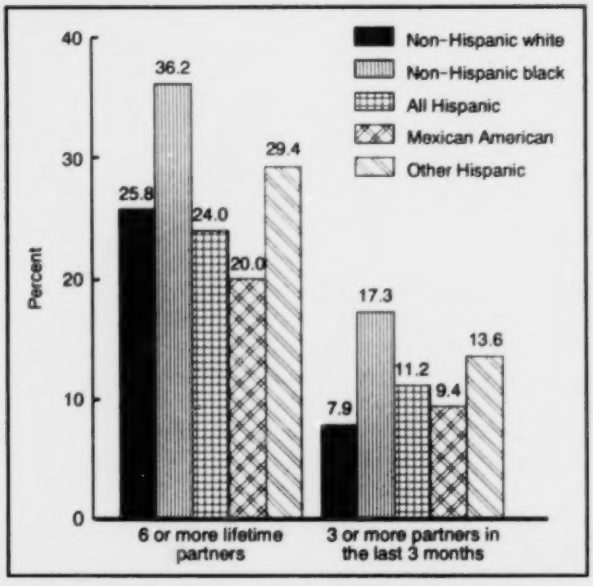

Figure 5. Percent of never married, sexually experienced youth 14–21 years of age, by number of partners, Hispanic origin, and race for youth of non-Hispanic origin: United States, 1992

Hispanic teens (56.5 percent). Of all never-married youth, 28.5 percent of non-Hispanic black youth reported having had six or more sexual partners in their lifetime compared with 15.0 percent of non-Hispanic white and 13.5 percent of Hispanic youth. Mexican American youth (10.8 percent) were less likely than other Hispanic youth (17.8 percent) to have had sex with six or more partners. Non-Hispanic black youth (13.7 percent) were more likely than non-Hispanic white youth (4.6 percent) and Hispanic youth (6.3 percent) to have said they had had three or more sexual partners within the last 3 months.

Among sexually experienced never-married teens (figure 5), the same pattern was apparent. Overall, 36.2 percent of sexually experienced non-Hispanic black teens had had six or more sexual partners compared with 25.8 percent of non-Hispanic white and 24.0 percent of Hispanic teens who had had sexual intercourse. Mexican American teens (20.0 percent) were less likely than other Hispanic teens (29.4 percent) to mention having had six or more lifetime partners. The rate of having had sex with three or more persons in the last 3 months was higher for non-Hispanic black teens (17.3 percent) than non-Hispanic white (7.9 percent) and Hispanic teens (11.2 percent).

Approximately 17.1 percent of sexually experienced adolescents reported using alcohol or drugs before their last sexual intercourse: 19.6 percent of males and 14.2 percent of females (table 4). Non-Hispanic white adolescents (18.8 percent) were more likely than non-Hispanic black adolescents (12.7 percent) to report this behavior.

About one-half of all sexually experienced adolescents reported condom use (by themselves or their partner) the last time they engaged in sexual intercourse—57.7 percent of males and 44.9 percent of females. Condom use was more prevalent among adolescents 14–15 years of age (64.4 percent) with the lowest percentage of use being among those 18–21 years of age (46.7 percent). Non-Hispanic black adolescents (59.9 percent) were more likely than non-Hispanic white (49.7 percent) and Hispanic adolescents (47.8 percent) to have used condoms the last time they had sex.

Never-married persons 14–21 years of age were also asked which *one* of the following methods they or their partner had used to prevent pregnancy the last time they had engaged in sexual intercourse: "no method used," "birth control pills," "condoms," "withdrawal," or "some other method." Because only one answer was accepted, estimates of condom use may differ from those in the previous question, which asked teens about use of condoms regardless of purpose.

Of sexually experienced teens, 15.8 percent said they did not use any form of birth control during their last sexual intercourse. Another 12.5 percent had used the withdrawal method— considered an unreliable form of birth control. Thus, a total of 28.3 percent were unprotected from pregnancy at the time of their last intercourse.

Prevalence of use of contraceptives did not vary by age. Of those who were sexually experienced, non-Hispanic black teens (49.1 percent) were more likely than non-Hispanic white teens (43.2 percent) and Hispanic teens (42.9 percent) to use condoms as a method of birth control. Non-Hispanic white teens (27.8 percent) were more likely than non-Hispanic black teens (19.9 percent) and Hispanic teens (15.9 percent) to use birth control pills. Use of the withdrawal method was more prevalent among non-Hispanic white teens (13.1 percent) and Hispanic teens (16.4 percent) than non-Hispanic black teens (7.8 percent).

In summary, the data show that among older adolescents, sexual intercourse was higher and condom use was lower compared with younger adolescents. Proportionately, more male youth than female youth had had sexual intercourse and males 18–21 years of age were more likely than females 18–21 years of age to experience their first intercourse at 12 years of age or younger. Non-Hispanic black youth were more likely than their non-Hispanic white and Hispanic counterparts to have ever had sex. The rate of alcohol or drug use before last sexual intercourse was higher among sexually experienced males than females and non-Hispanic white teens were more likely than non-Hispanic black teens to engage in this behavior. Although the proportion of non-Hispanic black youth who used condoms the last time they had sex was higher than non-Hispanic white and Hispanic youth, a noticeable proportion of all youth either used the withdrawal method or did not use any type of contraceptive method thus increasing their risk for unwanted pregnancy or sexually transmitted disease, including HIV/AIDS.

HIV/AIDS education at home and in school

Two questions in the NHIS-YRBS elicited responses from youth 12–21 years of age regarding receipt of HIV and AIDS education in school and discussion of HIV and AIDS at home with a parent or other adult family member.

Overall, 81.5 percent of all adolescents had received HIV/AIDS education when they were in school, and 68.6 per-

cent had discussed HIV/AIDS with a parent or an adult family member (table 5). Adolescent females (79.6 percent) were less likely to have received HIV/AIDS education in school compared with adolescent males (83.3 percent), but were more likely (72.6 percent) to have discussed HIV/AIDS with a parent or an adult family member compared with their male counterparts (64.7 percent).

Non-Hispanic black adolescents (74.5 percent) were more likely to have talked with a parent or an adult family member about HIV/AIDS than non-Hispanic white and Hispanic adolescents (69.0 and 66.0 percent, respectively). Non-Hispanic black adolescents (83.1 percent) were equally as likely as non-Hispanic white adolescents (81.9 percent) to have received HIV/AIDS education in school.

Of the two Hispanic subgroups, Mexican American teens (61.5 percent) were less likely than other Hispanic teens (73.1 percent) to have discussed HIV/AIDS with a parent or an adult family member and to have received HIV/AIDS education in school (77.7 and 83.0 percent, respectively).

Runaway and homeless experiences

Adolescents 12–21 years of age were asked questions about their staying away from home without permission and whether they had (with permission or not) stayed overnight at an at-risk location within the last 12 months. At-risk locations included public places such as a train or bus station, restaurant, or office building; an abandoned building; a car, truck, or van; outside in a park, on the street, under a bridge or overhang, or on a roof top; in the subway, or other public place underground; the home of someone they did not know; or a youth or adult shelter. Although a youth shelter may not be considered an at-risk location, it was included in this category because when asked the question respondents could not distinguish between youth or adult shelter. Since youth were not specifically asked questions about running away, these were indirect measures for runaway and homeless experiences.

Data in table 6 show that 15.8 percent of adolescents had stayed out overnight at least once in the past year without permission. Males were more likely (17.5 percent) than females (14.1 percent) to have stayed out overnight. A higher rate of male adolescents (3.6 percent) compared with female adolescents (2.0 percent) had stayed away from home on 7 or more nights in the past year.

Staying out overnight without permission was more prevalent among non-Hispanic black adolescents (18.2 percent) than non-Hispanic white adolescents (15.2 percent) and Hispanic adolescents (13.7 percent). Non-Hispanic black males (21.0 percent) were more likely than non-Hispanic white males (16.4 percent) to engage in this behavior. Non-Hispanic black females (15.5 percent) were about equally as likely as non-Hispanic white females (14.0 percent) to have had a runaway or homeless experience; both groups were more likely than Hispanic females (10.4 percent) to have had such an experience.

Of all youth 12–21 years of age, 13.8 percent had stayed at an at-risk location within the past year. Male adolescents (17.4 percent) were significantly more likely than female adolescents (10.1 percent) to have done so. As age increased, the percent of males staying overnight at at-risk locations rose from 14.9 percent of those 12–13 years of age to 19.6 percent of those 18–21 years of age.

Non-Hispanic white adolescents (14.6 percent) were more likely than non-Hispanic black adolescents (10.1 percent) and Hispanic adolescents (12.1 percent) to stay at an at-risk location. Among Hispanics, Mexican American adolescents (14.5 percent) were more likely than other Hispanic adolescents (8.1 percent) to have done so.

In summary, the data show that about one in six youth had stayed out overnight without permission at least once in the past year, and males were more likely than females to have done so. Proportionately, more non-Hispanic black youth than non-Hispanic white and Hispanic youth had had a runaway or homeless experience. The rate of youth who had stayed at an at-risk location was highest among non-Hispanic white youth compared with non-Hispanic black and Hispanic youth.

Violence

Table 7 presents data on behaviors related to intentional injuries, including participation in physical fighting and use of weapons.

Overall, 38.9 percent of teens 12–21 years of age had engaged in at least one physical fight in the past year. Ten percent of all teens had fought with someone on four or more occasions. Non-Hispanic black teens (49.1 percent) were more likely than non-Hispanic white (36.7 percent) and Hispanic teens (39.9 percent) to have been in a fight.

Physical violence was more common among male adolescents (48.1 percent) than female adolescents (29.4 percent). Of young adolescent males who had been in a physical fight in the past year, 53.4 percent of those 12–13 years of age had fought with a friend and 13.7 percent had fought with a parent or sibling at the time of their last fight. By comparison, 37.5 percent of female adolescents 12–13 years of age had fought with a friend and 35.9 percent had fought with a parent or sibling. Among young adults 18–21 years of age, males (28.9 percent) were more likely than females (7.9 percent) to have fought with strangers. Females (32.5 percent), on the other hand, were more likely than their male counterparts (2.5 percent) to have fought with a boyfriend or date.

Of youth who had engaged in physical violence in the past year, non-Hispanic white youth (20.0 percent) were more likely than non-Hispanic black (9.9 percent) and Hispanic youth (14.7 percent) to have fought with a parent or sibling the last time they had fought. Non-Hispanic black youth (49.4 percent) were more likely than non-Hispanic white youth (34.5 percent) and Hispanic youth (36.3 percent) to have fought with a friend. Hispanic youth (19.8 percent) were more likely than non-Hispanic white (12.2 percent) and non-Hispanic black youth (10.4 percent) to have fought with a stranger.

Youth 12–21 years of age were asked on how many days during the past month they had carried a weapon, such as a gun, knife, or club. Youth who had carried a weapon were then asked the one kind of weapon they had carried most often during the past month.

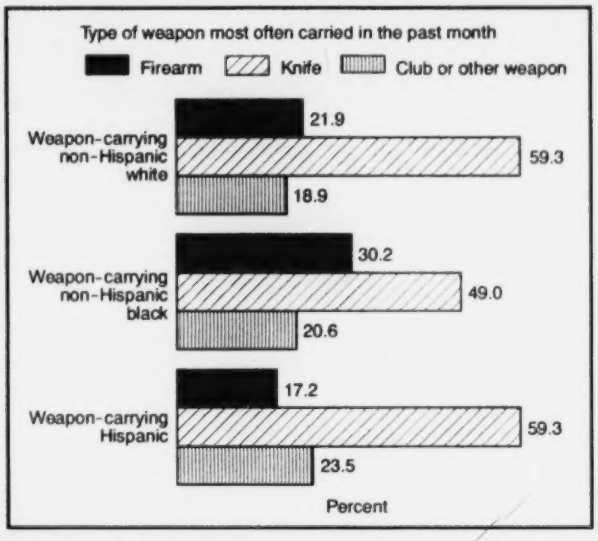

Figure 6. Percent of youth 12–21 years of age who carried a weapon in the past month by type of weapon most often carried, according to Hispanic origin and race for youth of non-Hispanic origin: United States, 1992

Approximately 14.8 percent of all teens reported carrying a weapon at least one day during the past month. This percent was similar for teens of different race and ethnic backgrounds. Males (23.8 percent) were about four times as likely as females (5.7 percent) to have carried a weapon.

Among weapon-carrying adolescents, males were more likely to have carried knives than any other type of weapon listed. Comparisons could not be made for females because most of the data were statistically unreliable. Among males who had carried a weapon in the past month about one-third of those 18–21 years of age had carried a firearm compared with one-fourth of males 12–13 years of age and one-fifth of males 14–17 years of age.

Among youth who had carried a weapon in the past month, non-Hispanic black teens (30.2 percent) were significantly more likely to have carried a firearm than non-Hispanic white teens (21.9 percent) and Hispanic teens (17.2 percent). The percent of weapon-carrying teens who had carried knives was identical for non-Hispanic white and Hispanic teens (59.3 percent); 49.0 percent of non-Hispanic black teens had also carried a knife. A club or other type of weapon was carried by 18.9 percent of non-Hispanic white, 20.6 percent of non-Hispanic black, and 23.5 percent of Hispanic teens (figure 6).

In summary, the data show that physical violence—fighting with another person—in the past year was more prevalent among male youth and non-Hispanic black youth. Among young adults 18–21 years of age, males were more likely to have fought with a stranger or friend and females were more likely to have fought with a boyfriend or date the last time they had engaged in physical fighting. There were no race and ethnic differences observed in the prevalence of carrying a weapon. Of youth who had carried a weapon at least one day in the past month, almost 1 out of 4 had most often carried a firearm and 6 out of 10 had most often carried a knife.

Unintentional injury control

Table 8 presents data on unintentional injury control, including questions on use of seatbelts, use of helmets when riding a bicycle or motorcycle within the past year, and whether an adult or lifeguard was present when swimming at such places as a lake, pool, or ocean.

Use of seatbelts

While the data show that 82.1 percent of all youth 12–21 years of age had worn seatbelts at least some of the time while riding in a car driven by someone else, only 34.2 percent had worn them all of the time. Female youth (38.6 percent) were more likely than male youth (29.9 percent) to always wear seatbelts. Consistent use of seatbelts was more prevalent among young adult females (41.6 percent) compared with younger females (35.0 percent). The rate did not vary by age for males.

Non-Hispanic white (36.1 percent) and Hispanic adolescents (33.0 percent) were more likely than non-Hispanic black adolescents (25.7 percent) to always wear seatbelts.

Motorcycle riding and helmet use

About one-fourth of all adolescents had ridden a motorcycle at least once in the past year (table 8). Of those who had ridden a motorcycle, about 4 out of 10 had worn a helmet all of the time. Motorcycle riding was more prevalent among male teens (31.3 percent) compared with female teens (17.6 percent), but males (42.3 percent) were less likely than females (47.2 percent) to consistently wear a helmet when riding a motorcycle.

Non-Hispanic white teens (29.0 percent) were more likely than non-Hispanic black (11.4 percent) and Hispanic teens (17.8 percent) to have ridden a motorcycle in the last 12 months. Rates for teens who had always worn a helmet while riding a motorcycle were higher for non-Hispanic white (45.7 percent) and non-Hispanic black teens (41.1 percent) compared with Hispanic teens (35.0 percent).

Bicycle riding and helmet use

About three-fourths of all youth reported riding a bicycle at least once in the past year and less than 2 in 100 bicycle riders always wore a helmet (table 8). Bike riding is very popular among youth, especially at the younger ages ranging from 92.4 percent of teens 12–13 years of age to 59.7 percent of teens 18–21 years of age. Across all age groups, however, of teen bike riders less than 3 percent had consistently worn a helmet.

Male adolescents (80.4 percent) were more likely to have ridden a bicycle than female adolescents (69.4 percent) and only 1.8 percent of both sexes had always worn a helmet.

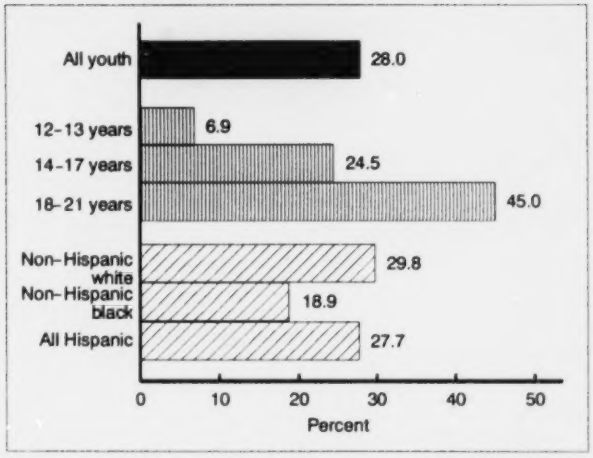

Figure 7. Percent of youth 12–21 years of age who had gone swimming in the past year and never or rarely had an adult or lifeguard watching, by age, Hispanic origin, and race for youth of non-Hispanic origin: United States, 1992

Consistent use of bicycle helmets when riding a bike was extremely low among all race and ethnic groups shown.

Unsupervised swimming

Of all youth 12–21 years of age, 24.7 percent reported that when they went swimming they rarely or never had an adult or lifeguard watching them (table 8). When restricting the denominator to only those youth who had gone swimming in the last 12 months, 28.0 percent swam unsupervised most of the time (figure 7). Older adolescents were more likely to swim unsupervised; 45.0 percent of young adults 18–21 years of age who had gone swimming rarely or never had an adult or lifeguard watching them compared with 6.9 percent of teens 12–13 years of age.

The percent of non-Hispanic white (92.7 percent) and Hispanic adolescents (85.8 percent) who had gone swimming in the last 12 months was higher when compared with non-Hispanic black adolescents (70.3 percent) (table 8). Of those adolescents who had gone swimming, non-Hispanic white (29.8 percent) and Hispanic adolescents (27.7 percent) were more likely than non-Hispanic black adolescents (18.9 percent) to swim unsupervised most of the time (figure 7).

In summary, the data show that while the majority of youth had worn seatbelts at least some of the time while riding in a car driven by someone else, only about one-third had worn them all of the time. Of youth who had ridden motorcycles, only 4 out of 10 had always worn a helmet. Use of bicycle helmets among bicycle riders was extremely low among all age, sex, race, and ethnic groups shown. Older youth were more likely to have gone swimming without adult supervision. Although the proportion of non-Hispanic white and Hispanic youth who had gone swimming in the past year was higher than non-Hispanic black youth, non-Hispanic black youth were less likely to swim unsupervised.

Weight control

Youth 12–21 years of age were asked questions to measure weight-control practices that included perceived weight, what if anything they were trying to do about their weight, attempts in the past week to lose or keep from gaining weight, and type of weight control attempts in past week.

Table 9 shows that 51.4 percent of all adolescents perceived their weight as being about right, 15.0 percent perceived themselves as underweight, and 33.6 percent perceived themselves as overweight. Females (43.4 percent) were nearly twice as likely as males (24.1 percent) to think they were overweight. Perception of being overweight increased with age. Among female youth 12–13 years, 34.3 percent said they were overweight compared with 48.8 percent of females 18–21 years. Among male youth 14–17 years, 21.8 percent said they were overweight compared with 26.9 percent of males 18–21 years.

Over one-third of all adolescents were trying to lose weight. Females (50.5 percent) were more than twice as likely as males (22.7 percent) to be trying to do so. Of female adolescents who attempted to lose or keep from gaining weight in the past week, 53.8 percent had dieted, 85.1 percent had exercised, 42.6 percent had combined dieting and exercising, 4.3 percent had vomited, 4.5 percent had used diet pills, and 10.5 percent had used some other method to try and keep the weight off. By comparison, 37.4 percent of male adolescents had dieted, 88.2 percent had exercised, 30.7 percent had combined both dieting and exercise, 3.3 percent had vomited, 1.8 percent had taken diet pills, and 12.7 percent had used some other method.

Proportionately, of those who considered themselves underweight, about twice as many female teens (24.0 percent) compared with male teens (12.4 percent), had attempted to control their weight in the past week. Of youth who responded that their weight was about right, females (47.3 percent) were more likely than males (31.2 percent) to have one or more weight control attempts. Almost three-fourths of female adolescents who were slightly overweight did something to control their weight compared with 65.4 percent of their male counterparts. Of those adolescents who saw themselves as very overweight, 75.9 percent of males and 70.1 percent of females had attempted weight control.

Non-Hispanic black adolescent females (36.0 percent) were less likely than non-Hispanic white adolescent females (46.1 percent) to perceive themselves as being overweight. This difference was also observed for males, with 17.7 percent of non-Hispanic black adolescent males saying they were overweight compared with 24.9 percent of non-Hispanic white adolescent males.

Non-Hispanic black female teens (41.5 percent) were less likely than non-Hispanic white females (59.5 percent) and Hispanic females (55.1 percent) to report any attempt to lose or keep from gaining weight in the past week. Non-Hispanic white male teens (34.8 percent) and non-Hispanic black male teens (34.0 percent) were less likely than Hispanic males (43.2 percent) to report any weight control attempt in the past week.

Overall, the data show that about one-third of all teens perceive themselves as being overweight. Females were twice as likely as males to say they were overweight. Older females were more likely to think they were overweight compared with their younger female counterparts. Proportionately, fewer non-Hispanic black male and female youth considered themselves overweight compared with non-Hispanic white male and female youth. More than one-third of all youth were trying to lose weight and females were more likely than males to be trying to do so.

Physical activity

Adolescents 12–21 years of age responded to questions about their participation in physical activities in the past week and if they took part in activities that caused sweating and hard breathing. In addition, questions were asked about a list of activities and the number of days these activities were performed. These activities included stretching exercises; exercises for muscles; house cleaning or yard work; walking or bicycling; playing baseball or frisbee; playing basketball, football, or soccer; skating, skiing, or skateboarding; jogging or swimming; playing tennis, racquetball, or squash; and doing aerobics or dance.

The data in table 10 show that 97.8 percent of all teens participated in at least one physical activity in the past week and over one-half (53.7 percent) took part in five activities or more. Overall, 60.2 percent of males and 47.1 percent of females engaged in activities that caused sweating and hard breathing on 3 or more days in the past week. Non-Hispanic white youth (54.6 percent) were more likely than Hispanic youth (49.5 percent) to participate in vigorous exercise on 3 or more days.

Overall, 96.6 percent of young adults 18–21 years of age had engaged in at least one physical activity in the past week. Compared with the two younger groups, youth in this age group had the lowest rate of participation in each individual physical activity. While four out of five (81.1 percent) youth 12–13 years of age had done stretching exercises, only 56.7 percent of those 18–21 years of age had done so. Three out of four (75.6 percent) youth 12–13 years of age had jogged or swam for exercise compared with 37.4 percent of youth 18–21 years of age.

Of the 10 types of activities listed, a higher proportion of teens (82.8 percent) had mentioned doing house cleaning or yard work for at least 30 minutes during the past week than any other activity shown. The percent of participation in this activity was slightly higher for non-Hispanic white and non-Hispanic black teens compared with Hispanic teens (83.1, 84.2, and 80.1 percent, respectively). However, non-Hispanic black teens (26.4 percent) were more likely than non-Hispanic white (11.7 percent) and Hispanic teens (18.7 percent) to have spent 30 minutes or more cleaning the house or yard every day of the past week.

Some differences between males and females were observed for those activities related to team sports. About 6 out of 10 (61.7 percent) adolescent males had played basketball, football, or soccer within the past week compared with about 3 out of 10 (29.8 percent) female adolescents. In addition, male adolescents (70.6 percent) were more likely than female adolescents (55.5 percent) to engage in muscle exercises. The percent of female youth (53.9 percent) who reported doing aerobics or dance in the past week was more than twice that of male youth (22.7 percent).

Non-Hispanic white and Hispanic youth (65.3 percent) were somewhat more likely than non-Hispanic black youth (60.4 percent) to have walked or ridden a bicycle for 30 minutes or more in the past week. Non-Hispanic black teens (49.3 percent) were more likely than non-Hispanic white (35.0 percent) and Hispanic teens (41.9 percent) to have participated in aerobics or dance.

In summary, the data show that while the majority of youth had participated in at least one physical activity in the past week, the rate of participation in the specific activities shown decreased among older youth, in some cases by as much as one half. House cleaning or yard work had the highest rate of participation than any other activity shown and non-Hispanic black youth were more likely than non-Hispanic white and Hispanic youth to engage in this activity every day during the past week. Male youth were more likely than female youth to play basketball, football, or soccer while female youth were more likely to engage in aerobics or dance.

Summary and conclusions

Data from the 1992 NHIS-YRBS show that a substantial number of U.S. youth are engaging in risk-taking behaviors that can lead to chronic disease, injury, and death. A significant proportion of youth have smoked cigarettes (59.9 percent), drunk alcohol (67.7 percent), and used illegal drugs (31.0 percent). Consumption of each of these substances increased dramatically with age. Youth are also engaging in sexual behaviors that place them at risk for serious health and social consequences. Over 60 percent of all never-married youth 14–21 years of age and nearly 80 percent of never-married youth 18–21 years of age had engaged in sexual intercourse at least once in their lifetime. About one-fourth of sexually experienced youth had failed to use a reliable method of contraception the last time they had intercourse, thereby increasing their chances for unintended pregnancy. About one-half had failed to use a condom, thereby increasing their chances of contracting sexually transmitted diseases, including HIV/AIDS. More than 4 out of 10 youth (43.9 percent) 14–21 years of age had had more than one sex partner in their lifetime. Among youth who had reached young adulthood (18–21 years of age), 6 out of 10 (61.9 percent) had had multiple partners. About two-thirds (68.6 percent) of all youth had discussed HIV/AIDS with an adult family member, and about 8 out of 10 youth (81.5 percent) had received HIV/AIDS education in school.

Runaway and homeless experiences were found among a noteworthy proportion of youth. Overall, 15.8 percent had spent the night away from home without permission and 13.8 percent had spent the night at an at-risk location, such as a bus station, a car, or a stranger's home. Youth who spend time away from home under such conditions may be at higher risk of using drugs and alcohol and of being victims of sexual, physical, and emotional abuse (50,51).

NHIS-YRBS statistics on violence are also cause for concern. Nearly one-half of males (48.1 percent) had been in a physical fight in the past year and nearly one in four male youth (23.8 percent) had carried a weapon in the past month. Among female adolescents, physical fighting (29.4 percent) was somewhat lower than for males, yet still substantial. Weapon carrying among females (5.7 percent) was relatively rare.

The data presented in this report also suggest that large numbers of youth are failing to follow basic injury prevention practices. About one-fourth (24.9 percent) of youth said they had ridden in a car or other vehicle in the past month with a driver who had been drinking; 29.5 percent of youth who were old enough to drive had themselves driven after drinking during the same time period. Only 34.2 percent of youth always wore seatbelts when riding in a car driven by someone else; 44.1 percent of motorcycle riders always wore a helmet. A remarkably small percent (1.8 percent) of bicycle riders consistently wore helmets. About one in four youth (24.7 percent) placed themselves at risk of drowning by going swimming without an adult or lifeguard watching. About one-third of all youth interviewed for the NHIS-YRBS considered themselves to be at least slightly overweight. Fortunately, the vast majority were attempting to lose weight by diet and/or exercise rather than harmful weight loss regimens such as vomiting and diet pills. Of youth who were trying to lose or maintain their weight, nearly 9 out of 10 (86.3 percent) said they were using exercise to do so. Nearly one-half (47.3 percent) of these overweight youth were dieting. Prevalence of use of diet pills (3.4 percent), vomiting (3.9 percent), or other weight loss strategies (11.4 percent) were relatively low.

About one-half (53.7 percent) of U.S. adolescents engaged in vigorous physical activity 3 days or more in the week preceding the NHIS-YRBS interview. Unfortunately, this positive health behavior dropped noticeably with increasing age: 68.6 percent of 12–13-year-old youth had engaged in vigorous physical exercise 3 days or more in the week declining to 38.1 percent among youth 18–21 years of age.

Overall, significant proportions of U.S. adolescents and young adults were engaging in high-risk behaviors in 1992. Data shown in this report point to the very early age at which experimentation with addictive substances begins and highlight the natural progression from experimentation to regular use as children move from the preteen years to young adulthood. Similarly, data on sexual experiences, runaway and homeless experiences, violence, and unintentional injury control shed light on the high mortality rates due to injuries found among our Nation's youth. All of these data point to opportunities for enhancing the health of our youth through early interventions on the part of parents, schools, and communities. Providing our youth with information, assisting them in developing positive attitudes toward themselves and others, and teaching them life skills that promote health and well-being offer them the best chance of emerging into adulthood with healthful lifestyles that will carry through their lives.

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Table 1. Percent distribution of youth 12–21 years of age by selected tobacco use measures, according to sex, age, Hispanic origin, and race for youth of non-Hispanic origin: United States, 1992

Selected tobacco use measures	All ages 12–21 years	Age			Non-Hispanic origin		Hispanic origin		
		12–13 years	14–17 years	18–21 years	White	Black	All Hispanic	Mexican American[1]	Other Hispanic[2]
Both sexes[3]	Percent distribution								
Ever smoked a cigarette	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Yes, a few puffs	10.0	9.5	10.7	9.7	9.4	12.9	11.2	10.8	11.9
Yes, a whole cigarette	49.9	20.5	48.2	67.3	53.8	37.9	45.6	46.3	44.5
No	40.0	70.0	41.1	23.1	36.8	49.2	43.2	42.9	43.7
Age smoked first whole cigarette[4]	...	...	...	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
10 years or younger	...	...	...	10.8	12.4	5.6	4.8	*4.4	*5.4
11–14 years	...	...	...	36.3	37.8	28.0	38.8	36.3	42.7
15–21 years	...	...	...	52.9	49.8	66.3	56.5	59.4	51.9
Days smoked cigarettes in past month	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Never smoked a whole cigarette	50.4	80.0	52.1	33.0	46.4	62.7	55.0	54.1	56.3
None	22.6	11.6	21.6	29.4	22.7	22.3	22.6	22.8	22.4
1–2 days	5.5	3.4	6.1	5.8	5.5	5.1	6.0	6.2	5.5
3–9 days	4.9	2.6	5.5	5.5	5.0	2.8	6.1	7.2	4.2
10–29 days	5.1	1.4	5.8	6.5	6.0	2.5	4.3	5.0	3.2
All 30 days	11.6	1.1	8.9	19.8	14.4	4.7	6.1	4.7	8.4
Average number smoked per day in past month[5]	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1 cigarette or less	23.7	51.2	27.5	17.9	21.3	33.5	33.9	36.3	29.8
2–5 cigarettes	31.6	36.3	38.1	26.5	29.3	36.0	39.7	42.6	34.7
6–10 cigarettes	17.3	*5.5	15.5	19.9	17.6	19.8	13.0	10.0	18.5
More than 10 cigarettes	27.4	*7.0	18.8	35.7	31.7	10.6	13.3	11.2	17.3
Ever smoked cigarettes regularly[6]	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Yes	22.1	4.7	18.8	34.5	26.2	10.3	15.0	14.3	16.1
No	77.9	95.3	81.2	65.5	73.8	89.7	85.0	85.7	83.9
Age first smoked cigarettes regularly[7]	...	...	...	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
12 years or younger	...	...	...	11.7	12.9	*4.0	*7.2	*7.2	*7.3
13–14 years	...	...	...	20.0	20.9	14.5	16.2	*14.9	*17.9
15–16 years	...	...	...	31.0	31.1	35.5	29.0	32.7	*23.8
17–21 years	...	...	...	37.3	35.1	46.0	47.6	45.2	51.0
Tried-quit smoking in past 6 months[8]	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Yes	53.8	69.4	56.6	49.8	52.9	53.6	54.7	55.1	53.9
No	46.2	30.5	43.4	50.2	47.1	46.2	45.3	44.9	46.1
Used chewing tobacco/snuff in past month	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
No	92.5	97.1	91.0	91.5	90.5	97.4	97.1	97.6	96.3
Yes	7.5	2.9	9.0	8.5	9.5	2.6	2.9	2.4	3.7
Used chewing tobacco only	1.2	0.7	1.5	1.1	1.5	*0.4	*0.6	*0.5	*0.7
Used snuff only	3.3	1.5	3.4	4.2	4.0	1.3	1.6	*1.2	*2.2
Used chewing tobacco and snuff	3.0	0.7	4.0	3.3	4.0	*0.9	*0.7	*0.7	*0.9
Male[3]									
Ever smoked a cigarette	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Yes, a few puffs	10.4	9.6	11.3	9.9	9.6	12.7	13.1	12.2	14.4
Yes, a whole cigarette	49.8	21.2	48.1	67.4	53.0	37.8	48.2	49.5	45.9
No	39.8	69.3	40.6	22.6	37.5	49.6	38.8	38.4	39.6
Age smoked first whole cigarette[4]	...	...	...	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
10 years or younger	...	...	...	13.8	16.6	*7.4	*5.5	*5.0	*6.5
11–14 years	...	...	...	35.4	37.2	25.1	37.0	34.6	41.1
15–21 years	...	...	...	50.8	46.2	67.7	57.5	60.1	52.4
Days smoked cigarettes in past month	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Never smoked a whole cigarette	50.7	80.0	52.4	32.8	47.4	63.0	52.4	51.1	54.8
None	20.9	11.9	20.0	26.8	21.0	19.9	20.7	20.5	20.9
1–2 days	5.8	3.0	6.9	6.3	5.8	5.1	7.0	7.4	6.2
3–9 days	4.8	2.3	5.4	5.6	4.8	3.1	6.8	8.7	*3.4
10–29 days	5.1	1.6	5.8	6.4	5.6	2.9	5.2	5.9	*4.1
All 30 days	12.7	1.4	9.5	22.1	15.5	5.9	7.9	6.4	10.6

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Percent distribution of youth 12–21 years of age by selected tobacco use measures, according to sex, age, Hispanic origin, and race for youth of non-Hispanic origin: United States, 1992—Con.

Selected tobacco use measures	All ages 12–21 years	Age			Non-Hispanic origin		Hispanic origin		
		12–13 years	14–17 years	18–21 years	White	Black	All Hispanic	Mexican American[1]	Other Hispanic[2]
Male[3]—Con.	Percent distribution								
Average number smoked per day in past month[5]	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1 cigarette or less	23.2	45.2	28.9	16.7	21.1	25.8	32.4	34.0	28.5
2–5 cigarettes	29.2	35.0	34.0	25.3	26.3	36.2	36.3	41.0	26.9
6–10 cigarettes	16.7	*7.8	14.9	18.9	17.0	19.7	12.8	*8.8	*20.2
More than 10 cigarettes	30.9	*11.6	22.3	39.1	35.5	15.3	18.5	15.8	23.8
Ever smoked cigarettes regularly[6]	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Yes	22.8	5.3	18.6	36.8	26.0	12.5	17.5	16.4	19.3
No	77.2	94.7	81.4	63.2	74.0	87.5	82.5	83.6	80.7
Age first smoked cigarettes regularly[7]	...	...	...	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
12 years or younger	...	...	...	13.2	15.1	*4.8	*8.5	*7.9	*9.5
13–14 years	...	...	...	19.5	20.4	*12.6	*18.8	*15.7	*23.8
15–16 years	...	...	...	28.1	28.6	31.7	26.3	*30.7	*19.0
17–21 years	...	...	...	39.2	35.9	50.4	46.4	45.0	*48.8
Tried-quit smoking in past 6 months[8]	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Yes	50.9	69.6	52.2	47.5	49.8	50.6	51.3	53.2	47.1
No	49.1	30.4	47.8	52.5	50.2	49.4	48.7	46.8	52.4
Used chewing tobacco/snuff in past month	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
No	86.5	95.2	84.4	84.0	82.3	96.5	95.4	96.0	94.3
Yes	13.5	4.8	15.6	16.0	17.7	3.5	4.6	4.0	5.7
Used chewing tobacco only	2.1	*1.1	2.7	2.0	2.7	*0.6	*0.9	*0.9	*1.0
Used snuff only	5.7	2.6	5.5	7.7	7.2	1.9	2.5	*1.8	*3.7
Used chewing tobacco and snuff	5.7	*1.2	7.4	6.4	7.7	*0.9	*1.1	*1.3	*0.9
Female[3]									
Ever smoked a cigarette	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Yes, a few puffs	9.7	9.5	10.1	9.4	9.2	13.1	9.3	9.2	9.4
Yes, a whole cigarette	50.1	19.9	48.3	67.1	54.6	38.0	42.9	42.7	43.0
No	40.2	70.7	41.6	23.5	36.2	48.9	47.9	48.0	47.6
Age smoked first whole cigarette[4]	...	...	...	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
10 years or younger	...	...	...	7.9	8.5	*4.2	*3.8	*3.4	*4.3
11–14 years	...	...	...	37.1	38.4	30.8	41.1	38.8	43.9
15–21 years	...	...	...	54.9	53.1	65.2	55.1	57.8	51.9
Days smoked cigarettes in past month	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Never smoked a whole cigarette	50.1	80.0	51.8	33.2	45.5	62.4	57.6	57.5	57.8
None	24.3	11.3	23.2	31.9	24.4	24.7	24.7	25.3	23.7
1–2 days	5.1	3.9	5.4	5.4	5.2	5.1	4.9	5.0	*4.9
3–9 days	4.9	2.8	5.5	5.3	5.1	2.4	5.3	5.5	*4.9
10–29 days	5.2	*1.2	5.9	6.5	6.4	2.0	3.3	3.9	*2.4
All 30 days	10.5	*0.8	8.2	17.6	13.4	3.5	4.2	*2.8	6.2
Average number smoked per day in past month[5]	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1 cigarette or less	24.4	56.5	25.9	19.2	21.5	39.5	36.2	40.2	31.4
2–5 cigarettes	34.3	37.6	42.9	27.9	32.5	35.8	45.0	45.3	44.4
6–10 cigarettes	17.9	*3.3	16.3	21.0	18.3	20.1	13.4	*11.7	*15.7
More than 10 cigarettes	23.4	*2.6	15.0	32.0	27.8	*4.3	*5.2	*2.3	*9.2
Ever smoked cigarettes regularly[6]	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Yes	21.4	4.2	19.0	32.4	26.3	8.2	12.4	12.0	13.1
No	78.6	95.8	81.0	67.6	73.7	91.8	87.6	88.0	86.9
Age first smoked cigarettes regularly[7]	...	...	...	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
12 years or younger	...	...	...	10.1	10.7	*2.8	*5.2	*5.9	*4.5
13–14 years	...	...	...	20.5	21.5	*17.6	*11.9	*11.8	*10.4
15–16 years	...	...	...	34.2	33.6	41.5	33.3	*36.8	*29.9
17–21 years	...	...	...	35.2	34.3	38.7	49.6	*45.6	*53.7
Tried-quit smoking in past 6 months[8]	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Yes	57.1	69.1	61.5	52.3	56.2	57.9	59.9	58.4	62.0
No	42.9	30.9	38.5	47.7	43.8	42.1	40.4	41.6	38.0

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Percent distribution of youth 12–21 years of age by selected tobacco use measures, according to sex, age, Hispanic origin, and race for youth of non-Hispanic origin: United States, 1992—Con.

Selected tobacco use measures	All ages 12–21 years	Age			Non-Hispanic origin		Hispanic origin		
		12–13 years	14–17 years	18–21 years	White	Black	All Hispanic	Mexican American[1]	Other Hispanic[2]
Female[3]—Con.					Percent distribution				
Used chewing tobacco/snuff in past month	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
No	98.5	99.1	98.0	98.7	98.7	98.2	98.9	99.4	98.1
Yes	1.5	*0.9	2.0	1.3	1.3	*1.8	*1.1	*0.6	*1.9
Used chewing tobacco only	0.3	*0.3	*0.3	*0.2	*0.3	*0.2	*0.2	*0.1	*0.5
Used snuff only	0.9	*0.4	1.2	0.8	0.8	*0.7	*0.5	*0.5	*0.6
Used chewing tobacco and snuff	0.3	*0.1	*0.5	*0.3	*0.3	*0.9	*0.3	* –	*0.8

[1]Includes Mexican/Mexicano, Mexican American, and Chicano.

[2]Includes Puerto Rican, Cuban, other Latin American, other Spanish, and multiple Hispanic origin (see appendixes I and II).

[3]Includes non-Hispanic racial groups not shown separately and unknown if Hispanic origin.

[4]Includes those 18–21 years of age who ever smoked a whole cigarette.

[5]Includes those who smoked in past month.

[6]'Regularly' defined as at least one cigarette a day for 1 month.

[7]Includes those 18–21 years of age who ever smoked cigarettes regularly.

[8]Includes those who were smoking cigarettes in the past 6 months.

NOTE: Denominators exclude unknowns.

Table 2. Percent distribution of youth 12–21 years of age by selected alcohol use measures, according to sex, age, Hispanic origin, and race for youth of non-Hispanic origin: United States, 1992

Selected alcohol use measures	All ages 12–21 years	Age			Non-Hispanic origin		Hispanic origin		
		12–13 years	14–17 years	18–21 years	White	Black	All Hispanic	Mexican American[1]	Other Hispanic[2]
Both sexes[3]	Percent distribution								
Ever had a drink of alcohol	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Yes	67.7	28.9	67.3	87.4	70.1	62.2	64.4	64.0	65.0
No	32.3	71.1	32.7	12.6	29.9	37.8	35.6	36.0	35.0
Age had first drink of alcohol[4]	...	...	...	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
10 years and under	...	...	...	6.5	6.7	6.3	5.9	6.2	*5.5
11–12 years	...	...	...	9.3	10.4	7.6	6.0	*4.7	*7.8
13–14 years	...	...	...	22.3	24.9	11.8	20.3	21.0	19.2
15–16 years	...	...	...	34.6	35.1	35.2	35.1	36.9	32.4
17–21 years	...	...	...	27.3	23.0	39.0	32.8	31.2	35.1
Days drank alcohol in lifetime	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Never drank	32.7	71.1	33.0	12.9	30.1	38.5	36.2	36.6	35.5
1–2 days	15.0	14.0	17.9	12.6	12.0	22.9	21.8	21.3	22.6
3–9 days	11.9	6.9	14.9	11.5	11.6	13.6	12.7	12.0	13.7
10–39 days	18.6	5.4	20.2	23.8	20.3	13.4	15.8	15.9	15.6
40–99 days	9.4	1.2	7.6	15.3	11.1	5.0	6.6	7.4	5.2
100 days or more	12.5	1.5	6.3	24.1	14.9	6.7	7.0	6.9	7.3
Days drank alcohol in past month	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Never drank	33.0	71.2	33.3	13.0	30.4	38.7	36.2	36.7	35.5
None	22.2	15.1	26.8	21.4	21.7	23.3	22.1	20.9	24.0
1–2 days	20.0	9.3	20.0	25.4	19.9	20.7	22.0	21.9	22.2
3–9 days	18.1	3.4	15.5	28.1	20.3	12.6	14.5	14.8	14.1
10 days or more	6.8	1.0	4.3	12.1	7.6	4.8	5.1	5.7	4.2
Days had 5 drinks or more within a couple of hours (in past month)	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Never drank	31.9	69.0	32.1	12.6	29.7	36.5	34.7	35.0	34.0
Drank but never 5 or more in a row	5.5	4.6	5.9	5.5	4.7	8.6	5.1	4.9	5.5
None	37.0	21.8	40.1	41.9	36.2	40.2	38.1	36.7	40.4
1–2 days	13.7	3.4	13.0	19.7	15.3	9.1	13.0	13.8	11.8
3–9 days	9.6	1.0	7.2	16.3	11.4	4.5	7.5	8.0	6.7
10 days or more	2.3	*0.2	1.6	4.0	2.8	*0.9	1.6	*1.6	*1.6
Drove after drinking alcohol[5,6] (in past month)	100.0	...	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
None	70.4	...	78.2	67.7	68.8	73.9	73.2	67.1	82.8
1 time	13.6	...	12.1	14.2	14.5	10.7	11.7	15.1	*6.5
2–3 times	10.6	...	6.4	12.1	10.9	11.6	9.7	11.9	*6.5
4 times or more	5.3	...	3.4	6.0	5.8	3.8	5.4	*6.1	*4.4
Rode with driver who had been drinking alcohol (in past month)	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
None	75.1	88.3	77.9	65.2	74.7	73.9	75.3	72.6	79.8
1 time	10.4	4.7	9.8	14.1	10.9	9.8	10.1	10.7	9.3
2–3 times	8.8	4.1	7.2	12.7	8.7	9.0	8.9	10.0	7.3
4 times or more	5.7	2.9	5.0	8.0	5.6	7.3	5.6	6.8	3.6
Male[3]									
Ever had a drink of alcohol	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Yes	67.5	30.0	66.7	87.8	69.3	62.6	66.9	68.4	64.3
No	32.5	70.0	33.3	12.3	30.7	37.4	33.1	31.5	35.7
Age had first drink of alcohol[4]	...	...	...	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
10 years and under	...	...	...	8.8	9.4	6.6	8.4	*7.9	*9.4
11–12 years	...	...	...	11.8	12.5	10.7	8.7	*6.2	*13.1
13–14 years	...	...	...	21.4	23.6	10.2	25.6	24.5	27.5
15–16 years	...	...	...	34.4	34.4	36.0	34.9	36.9	31.6
17–21 years	...	...	...	23.7	20.0	36.4	22.3	24.5	18.4

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 2. Percent distribution of youth 12–21 years of age by selected alcohol use measures, according to sex, age, Hispanic origin, and race for youth of non-Hispanic origin: United States, 1992—Con.

Selected alcohol use measures	All ages 12–21 years	Age			Non-Hispanic origin		Hispanic origin		
		12–13 years	14–17 years	18–21 years	White	Black	All Hispanic	Mexican American[1]	Other Hispanic[2]
Male[3]—Con.					Percent distribution				
Days drank alcohol in lifetime	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Never drank	33.0	69.9	33.6	12.5	31.0	38.2	33.8	32.3	36.5
1–2 days	14.3	14.5	17.5	11.1	11.8	19.4	20.3	21.7	18.2
3–9 days	10.7	6.6	13.5	10.2	10.1	13.8	12.1	12.2	11.9
10–39 days	17.9	5.9	19.8	22.4	18.9	13.7	17.3	17.8	16.4
40–99 days	8.8	*1.3	7.4	14.2	9.9	5.6	7.3	7.1	7.5
100 days or more	15.3	1.8	8.3	29.6	18.2	9.3	9.2	8.9	9.7
Days drank alcohol in past month	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Never drank	33.2	69.9	34.0	12.6	31.4	38.0	33.8	32.3	36.4
None	21.3	16.2	26.1	19.3	20.7	21.8	19.8	18.9	21.4
1–2 days	18.2	9.8	19.1	21.8	17.7	19.1	22.0	25.2	16.6
3–9 days	18.5	2.9	15.6	29.8	20.2	15.0	17.3	16.5	18.8
10 days or more	8.8	*1.2	5.2	16.4	10.0	6.1	7.1	7.2	6.8
Days had 5 drinks or more within a couple of hours (in past month)	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Never drank	32.0	67.6	32.5	12.2	30.5	35.9	31.8	30.1	34.8
Drank but never 5 or more in a row	5.3	4.8	6.3	4.6	4.4	7.7	6.2	6.8	*5.2
None	33.6	22.5	38.4	34.7	32.4	37.5	33.6	33.0	34.5
1–2 days	14.4	3.5	12.9	21.8	15.6	10.5	16.0	17.6	13.0
3–9 days	11.5	1.5	7.6	20.8	13.2	6.7	10.1	10.3	9.9
10 days or more	3.3	*0.2	2.4	5.9	3.9	*1.7	2.3	*2.1	*2.6
Drove after drinking alcohol[5,6] (in past month)	100.0	...	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
None	65.2	...	73.9	62.2	63.5	66.5	70.5	65.8	78.1
1 time	13.8	...	12.7	14.2	14.6	11.8	11.6	14.0	*8.1
2–3 times	12.9	...	8.6	14.4	13.2	14.9	10.3	12.8	*6.3
4 times or more	8.0	...	4.9	9.1	8.6	6.8	7.5	*7.6	*7.0
Rode with driver who had been drinking alcohol (in past month)	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
None	75.9	88.9	79.9	64.4	75.8	74.3	75.2	72.0	80.9
1 time	9.4	4.3	8.5	13.2	9.9	8.4	9.1	9.3	8.7
2–3 times	8.2	4.0	6.2	12.7	7.9	9.3	9.5	11.5	6.2
4 times or more	6.5	2.9	5.3	9.7	6.5	8.1	6.2	7.2	*4.3
Female[3]									
Ever had a drink of alcohol	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Yes	67.9	27.8	67.8	87.1	71.0	61.7	61.7	59.1	65.7
No	32.1	72.2	32.2	12.9	29.0	38.3	38.3	40.9	34.4
Age had first drink of alcohol[4]	...	...	...	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
10 years and under	...	...	...	4.3	4.1	5.9	*3.0	*3.7	*1.6
11–12 years	...	...	...	7.0	8.4	*4.6	*2.8	*2.8	*2.8
13–14 years	...	...	...	23.1	26.0	13.5	14.1	16.4	*11.0
15–16 years	...	...	...	34.9	35.7	34.4	35.3	36.8	33.3
17–21 years	...	...	...	30.8	25.8	41.5	45.0	39.9	51.2
Days drank alcohol in lifetime	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Never drank	32.5	72.3	32.4	13.2	29.3	38.8	38.6	41.2	34.7
1–2 days	15.6	13.4	18.4	14.1	12.2	26.3	23.3	20.8	26.9
3–9 days	13.0	7.2	16.3	12.7	13.0	13.3	13.2	11.7	15.5
10–39 days	19.3	4.9	20.7	25.1	21.7	13.0	14.3	13.9	14.8
40–99 days	10.0	*1.1	7.9	16.3	12.2	4.3	5.8	7.7	*3.0
100 days or more	9.6	*1.0	4.4	18.7	11.5	4.1	4.8	4.7	*5.2
Days drank alcohol in past month	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Never drank	32.7	72.6	32.6	13.3	29.5	39.5	38.8	41.5	34.7
None	23.1	14.0	27.6	23.4	22.7	24.8	24.5	23.2	26.4
1–2 days	21.8	8.7	20.9	28.9	22.1	22.2	22.1	18.3	27.7
3–9 days	17.7	3.9	15.4	26.5	20.4	10.1	11.6	12.9	9.6
10 days or more	4.7	*0.7	3.4	7.9	5.3	3.4	3.1	4.0	*1.7

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 2. Percent distribution of youth 12–21 years of age by selected alcohol use measures, according to sex, age, Hispanic origin, and race for youth of non-Hispanic origin: United States, 1992—Con.

Selected alcohol use measures	All ages 12–21 years	Age			Non-Hispanic origin		Hispanic origin		
		12–13 years	14–17 years	18–21 years	White	Black	All Hispanic	Mexican American[1]	Other Hispanic[2]
Female[3]—Con.	Percent distribution								
Days had 5 drinks or more within a couple of hours (in past month)	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Never drank	31.8	70.5	31.8	12.9	28.8	37.2	37.7	40.6	33.4
Drank but never 5 or more in a row	5.7	4.4	5.5	6.4	5.0	9.6	4.0	*2.7	5.8
None	40.5	20.9	41.8	48.8	40.0	43.1	43.0	40.9	45.8
1–2 days	13.1	3.4	13.2	17.7	15.0	7.8	9.9	9.4	10.8
3–9 days	7.7	*0.6	6.9	12.0	9.5	2.2	4.7	5.4	3.6
10 days or more	1.3	*0.2	0.8	2.2	1.7	*0.1	*0.8	*1.0	*0.6
Drove after drinking alcohol[5,6] (in past month)	100.0	...	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
None	75.8	...	82.9	73.4	74.2	82.4	76.8	68.9	88.0
1 time	13.4	...	11.5	14.1	14.3	9.4	11.9	16.7	*4.8
2–3 times	8.2	...	4.0	9.7	8.5	7.9	8.8	*10.5	*6.2
4 times or more	2.6	...	*1.7	2.8	3.0	*0.4	*2.5	*3.9	*1.0
Rode with driver who had been drinking alcohol (in the past month)	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
None	74.2	87.6	75.8	65.9	73.7	73.6	75.5	73.2	78.8
1 time	11.5	5.2	11.2	15.0	12.0	11.2	11.3	12.2	9.9
2–3 times	9.3	4.2	8.3	12.8	9.5	8.8	8.3	8.2	8.3
4 times or more	5.0	2.9	4.8	6.3	4.8	6.5	5.0	6.3	*3.0

[1]Includes Mexican/Mexicano, Mexican American, and Chicano.

[2]Includes Puerto Rican, Cuban, other Latin American, other Spanish, and multiple Hispanic origin (see appendixes I and II).

[3]Includes non-Hispanic racial groups not shown separately and unknown if Hispanic origin.

[4]Includes those 18–21 years of age who ever drank alcohol.

[5]Includes those who drank alcohol in the past month.

[6]Includes youth 18–21 years of age.

NOTE: Denominators exclude unknowns.

Table 3: Percent distribution of youth 12–21 years of age by selected illegal drug use measures and perceived risks associated with drug use, according to sex, age, Hispanic origin, and race for youth of non-Hispanic origin: United States, 1992

Selected illegal drug use measures	All ages 12–21 years	Age			Non-Hispanic origin		Hispanic origin		
		12–13 years	14–17 years	18–21 years	White	Black	All Hispanic	Mexican American[1]	Other Hispanic[2]
Both sexes[3]	Percent distribution								
Ever tried marijuana, cocaine, or any type of illegal drug	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Yes	31.0	7.3	25.9	49.0	33.5	25.3	27.8	28.4	26.9
No	69.0	92.7	74.1	51.0	66.5	74.7	72.2	71.7	73.1
Ever tried marijuana	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Yes	27.5	3.7	21.5	46.4	29.8	22.7	23.9	23.8	24.1
No	72.5	96.3	78.5	53.6	70.2	77.3	76.1	76.2	75.9
Age first tried marijuana[4]	...	...	...	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
12 years and under	...	...	...	13.0	12.3	12.1	16.9	17.3	*16.4
13–14 years	...	...	...	22.0	22.2	20.9	18.6	21.7	*14.0
15–16 years	...	...	...	32.5	33.0	34.4	30.6	29.0	32.8
17–21 years	...	...	...	32.4	32.5	32.7	34.0	31.7	37.2
Times used marijuana in lifetime	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Never used	72.5	96.3	78.5	53.7	70.2	77.4	76.1	76.2	75.9
1–2 times	7.4	2.5	6.7	10.7	7.3	8.8	7.2	7.1	7.2
3–9 times	5.9	*0.6	5.2	9.6	6.5	4.1	5.2	4.4	6.5
10–39 times	7.0	*0.5	5.3	12.3	7.7	5.1	5.8	6.3	5.0
40–99 times	2.6	*0.0	1.7	4.8	2.9	1.8	2.2	2.4	*1.9
100 times or more	4.6	*0.1	2.6	9.0	5.4	2.7	3.5	3.5	3.5
Times used marijuana in past month	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Never used	72.5	96.3	78.6	53.7	70.2	77.4	76.2	76.3	75.9
None	16.7	2.3	11.4	29.7	18.1	13.7	13.7	14.0	13.3
1–2 times	4.7	1.0	4.7	6.7	5.1	3.7	4.6	4.0	5.4
3–9 times	2.9	*0.3	2.9	4.4	3.1	2.7	2.6	2.8	*2.3
10 times or more	3.2	*0.2	2.5	5.6	3.5	2.4	2.9	2.9	3.1
Ever tried any form of cocaine[5]	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Yes	5.9	*0.3	2.9	11.9	6.5	2.5	7.0	7.8	5.8
No	94.1	99.6	97.1	88.1	93.5	97.6	93.0	92.3	94.2
Age first tried cocaine[6]	...	...	...	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
14 years and under	...	...	...	11.8	13.1	*–	*8.2	*10.6	*3.9
15–16 years	...	...	...	32.1	34.1	*19.3	32.0	*28.9	*37.7
17–21 years	...	...	...	56.1	52.8	81.7	59.8	60.6	*58.4
Times used cocaine in lifetime	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Never used	94.2	99.6	97.3	88.3	93.7	97.7	93.1	92.3	94.4
1–2 times	2.3	*0.3	1.2	4.5	2.6	1.0	3.1	3.3	2.9
3–9 times	1.3	*–	0.5	2.8	1.6	*0.4	*1.0	*1.2	*0.7
10–39 times	1.4	*0.0	0.7	3.0	1.4	*0.7	2.1	2.4	*1.6
40 times or more	0.7	*–	*0.2	1.4	0.8	*0.2	*0.7	*0.8	*0.4
Times used cocaine in past month	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Never used	94.1	99.6	97.2	88.1	93.5	97.5	93.0	92.3	94.2
None	4.6	*0.2	1.9	9.7	5.2	1.7	4.9	4.9	4.9
1–2 times	0.7	*0.2	0.5	1.3	0.8	*0.3	*1.0	*1.1	*0.8
3–9 times	0.3	*–	*0.3	0.5	0.3	*0.5	*0.4	*0.6	*0.1
10 times or more	0.2	*0.0	*0.1	0.4	*0.1	*0.1	*0.6	*1.0	*–
Times tried crack/freebase forms in lifetime	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Never used any form of cocaine	94.2	99.6	97.3	88.2	93.6	97.7	93.1	92.3	94.4
Used cocaine but never used crack	2.9	*0.0	1.2	6.2	3.3	1.1	3.4	3.3	3.6
1–2 times	1.5	*0.3	0.8	2.8	1.6	*0.9	1.7	2.2	*0.9
3–9 times	0.7	*–	0.5	1.2	0.7	*0.1	*0.7	*1.0	*0.2
10 times or more	0.7	*0.0	*0.3	1.5	0.7	*0.2	*1.1	*1.2	*0.9
Times used any other illegal drug in lifetime[7]	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
None	87.4	97.2	89.6	80.0	84.6	96.7	90.3	89.1	92.2
1–2 times	5.0	1.7	4.7	7.0	5.9	1.7	4.9	6.0	3.1
3–9 times	2.9	0.7	2.2	4.7	3.6	*0.8	2.5	2.1	3.0
10–39 times	3.0	*0.3	2.3	5.2	3.8	*0.5	1.4	*1.7	*1.0
40 times or more	1.7	*0.1	1.2	3.1	2.2	*0.3	*1.0	*1.2	*0.7
Ever taken steroid pills/shots without a prescription	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Yes	1.3	0.7	1.5	1.6	1.4	1.1	1.4	*1.7	*1.0
No	98.7	99.3	98.5	98.4	98.6	98.9	98.6	98.3	99.0

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 3: Percent distribution of youth 12–21 years of age by selected illegal drug use measures and perceived risks associated with drug use, according to sex, age, Hispanic origin, and race for youth of non-Hispanic origin: United States, 1992—Con.

Selected illegal drug use measures	All ages 12–21 years	Age			Non-Hispanic origin		Hispanic origin		
		12–13 years	14–17 years	18–21 years	White	Black	All Hispanic	Mexican American[1]	Other Hispanic[2]
Both sexes[3]—Con.	Percent distribution								
How much risk with occasional drug use:									
All statuses	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
A lot of risk	70.0	76.1	69.8	67.0	68.3	75.7	74.7	75.8	72.9
Some risk	21.0	17.0	21.9	22.2	22.6	15.0	17.0	16.2	18.4
Little/no risk	9.0	7.0	8.3	10.8	9.1	9.3	8.3	8.0	8.7
Never used drugs	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
A lot of risk	77.0	77.0	76.2	78.3	76.9	78.2	80.1	81.4	78.1
Some risk	17.4	16.4	18.7	16.4	18.6	13.3	12.9	12.1	14.1
Little/no risk	5.6	6.6	5.2	5.2	4.5	8.5	7.0	6.5	7.8
Ever used drugs	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
A lot of risk	54.3	65.5	51.7	54.8	51.1	68.1	61.4	61.7	60.8
Some risk	29.3	24.7	31.2	28.7	30.7	20.5	27.1	26.3	28.4
Little/no risk	16.3	9.8	17.2	16.4	18.2	11.3	11.5	12.0	10.8
How much risk with regular drug use:									
All statuses	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
A lot of risk	89.8	89.4	90.3	89.4	91.3	86.5	88.7	89.2	87.9
Some risk	6.3	5.8	6.1	6.9	5.9	6.5	6.1	6.1	6.1
Little/no risk	3.9	4.8	3.6	3.8	2.8	7.0	5.2	4.7	6.0
Never used drugs	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
A lot of risk	91.6	89.9	92.4	92.1	94.2	86.4	88.9	90.0	87.1
Some risk	4.9	5.3	4.7	5.0	3.9	6.4	5.6	5.0	6.6
Little/no risk	3.5	4.9	2.9	3.0	1.9	7.2	5.5	5.0	6.3
Ever used drugs	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
A lot of risk	85.7	83.4	84.7	86.5	85.6	86.8	88.3	87.1	90.6
Some risk	9.5	13.2	10.0	9.0	10.0	7.0	7.1	8.7	*4.1
Little/no risk	4.8	*3.4	5.4	4.6	4.4	6.2	4.6	*4.2	*5.3
Male[3]									
Ever tried marijuana, cocaine, or any type of illegal drug	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Yes	31.5	6.7	26.3	50.8	33.4	27.5	29.9	30.3	29.3
No	68.5	93.3	73.7	49.2	66.6	72.5	70.1	69.7	70.7
Ever tried marijuana	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Yes	28.0	3.7	22.1	47.8	29.6	24.5	27.3	27.1	27.7
No	72.0	96.3	77.9	52.2	70.4	75.5	72.7	72.9	72.2
Age first tried marijuana[4]	...	...	...	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
12 years and under	...	...	...	15.1	14.5	14.8	15.6	*15.5	*15.9
13–14 years	...	...	...	22.4	23.1	19.9	19.6	21.4	*17.4
15–16 years	...	...	...	30.8	30.8	34.7	29.8	30.9	*28.8
17–21 years	...	...	...	31.8	31.7	30.6	34.7	32.7	38.6
Times used marijuana in lifetime	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Never used	72.1	96.3	78.0	52.3	70.5	75.8	72.7	73.0	72.2
1–2 times	7.1	2.4	6.7	10.2	7.0	7.6	7.9	8.4	6.8
3–9 times	5.4	*0.6	5.0	8.5	5.7	4.3	5.5	4.3	7.7
10–39 times	6.9	*0.6	5.1	12.4	7.2	6.0	7.0	7.4	6.1
40–99 times	2.6	*0.0	1.5	5.2	3.0	2.4	*1.9	*2.3	*1.3
100 times or more	5.8	*0.1	3.7	11.4	6.7	4.0	5.0	4.6	*5.8
Times used marijuana in past month	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Never used	72.2	96.3	78.0	52.3	70.5	75.8	72.7	73.0	72.2
None	15.6	2.2	10.3	28.8	16.7	12.3	15.0	14.6	15.8
1–2 times	4.8	*1.1	5.0	6.7	4.9	4.7	4.8	4.6	*5.2
3–9 times	3.2	*0.2	3.4	4.7	3.2	3.5	3.5	3.9	*2.8
10 times or more	4.3	*0.2	3.3	7.6	4.6	3.7	3.9	3.9	*4.0
Ever tried any form of cocaine[5]	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Yes	6.2	*0.2	3.2	12.8	6.5	3.1	8.8	9.4	7.6
No	93.8	99.8	96.8	87.2	93.5	96.9	91.2	90.5	92.4

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 3: Percent distribution of youth 12–21 years of age by selected illegal drug use measures and perceived risks associated with drug use, according to sex, age, Hispanic origin, and race for youth of non-Hispanic origin: United States, 1992—Con.

Selected illegal drug use measures	All ages 12–21 years	Age			Non-Hispanic origin		Hispanic origin		
		12–13 years	14–17 years	18–21 years	White	Black	All Hispanic	Mexican American[1]	Other Hispanic[2]
Male[3]—Con.	Percent distribution								
Age first tried cocaine[6]	...	...	...	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
14 years and under	...	...	...	10.3	11.2	* –	*7.5	*9.3	*3.9
15–16 years	...	...	...	32.5	35.4	*14.1	32.7	*30.9	*37.3
17–21 years	...	...	...	57.2	53.3	85.9	59.9	59.8	*58.8
Times used cocaine in lifetime	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Never used	94.0	99.8	97.0	87.5	93.7	96.9	91.4	90.7	92.8
1–2 times	2.4	*0.2	1.3	4.9	2.6	*1.4	3.6	3.7	*3.5
3–9 times	1.2	* –	*0.5	2.6	1.3	*0.4	*1.3	*1.2	*1.5
10–39 times	1.5	* –	0.9	3.0	1.4	*0.7	2.8	3.5	*1.6
40 times or more	0.9	* –	*0.3	2.0	1.0	*0.4	*0.7	*0.9	*0.6
Times used cocaine in past month	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Never used	93.8	99.8	96.8	87.3	93.6	96.8	91.3	90.7	92.4
None	4.7	*0.2	2.0	10.1	5.1	2.5	5.8	5.2	7.1
1–2 times	0.7	*0.0	*0.6	1.2	0.8	*0.1	*1.1	*1.6	*0.4
3–9 times	0.4	* –	*0.4	0.8	*0.4	*0.7	*0.5	*0.7	*0.2
10 times or more	0.3	* –	*0.2	*0.6	*0.2	* –	*1.1	*1.8	* –
Times tried crack/freebase forms in lifetime	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	180.0	100.0	100.0
Never used any form of cocaine	93.9	99.8	96.9	87.5	93.6	96.9	91.4	90.7	92.8
Used cocaine but never used crack	2.9	* –	1.4	6.2	3.1	*1.4	4.6	4.6	*4.6
1–2 times	1.6	*0.2	0.8	3.1	1.7	*1.4	*1.7	*2.1	*1.1
3–9 times	0.6	* –	*0.3	1.2	0.6	*0.0	*0.7	*0.8	*0.5
10 times or more	1.0	* –	*0.5	2.0	1.0	*0.2	*1.5	*1.8	*1.0
Times used any other illegal drug in lifetime[7]	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
None	87.6	98.1	90.2	79.1	84.7	96.6	90.8	90.3	91.7
1–2 times	4.4	*1.1	4.2	6.6	5.3	*1.6	3.8	4.4	*2.8
3–9 times	3.0	*0.3	2.4	5.1	3.7	*0.6	2.6	*2.1	*3.7
10–39 times	2.9	*0.4	1.9	5.3	3.6	*0.7	*1.6	*1.8	*1.1
40 times or more	2.1	*0.1	1.3	3.9	2.7	*0.5	*1.1	*1.4	*0.6
Ever taken steroid pills/shots without a prescription	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Yes	2.0	*0.6	2.2	2.6	2.2	*1.3	*1.7	*1.8	*1.5
No	98.0	99.4	97.8	97.4	97.8	98.7	98.3	98.2	98.5
How much risk with occasional drug use:									
All statuses	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
A lot of risk	66.7	76.4	66.1	61.9	64.2	74.3	72.4	73.1	70.9
Some risk	22.5	16.5	24.3	24.1	24.2	16.3	18.6	17.7	20.3
Little/no risk	10.8	7.1	9.6	14.1	11.6	9.4	9.1	9.2	8.8
Never used drugs	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
A lot of risk	75.1	77.8	73.3	75.1	74.3	78.8	78.4	78.7	77.9
Some risk	19.1	15.8	21.0	19.7	20.6	14.0	15.0	14.6	15.7
Little/no risk	5.8	6.4	5.6	5.3	5.1	7.2	6.7	6.7	*6.4
Ever used drugs	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
A lot of risk	48.4	58.7	46.5	48.7	44.3	62.5	59.0	60.8	56.2
Some risk	30.4	26.3	32.9	29.1	31.7	23.5	26.4	24.2	30.5
Little/no risk	21.2	*13.0	20.5	22.2	24.0	14.2	14.4	15.0	*13.3
How much risk with regular drug use:									
All statuses	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
A lot of risk	88.5	89.9	89.4	86.9	89.7	87.2	87.5	87.7	87.4
Some risk	7.3	6.2	6.8	8.4	6.9	7.3	6.6	6.7	6.6
Little/no risk	4.2	3.9	3.8	4.7	3.4	5.5	5.8	5.7	6.1
Never used drugs	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
A lot of risk	91.8	90.4	92.9	91.6	93.9	88.7	87.9	88.7	86.8
Some risk	5.2	5.6	4.5	5.9	4.3	6.8	6.3	5.9	*6.9
Little/no risk	3.0	4.1	2.6	2.5	1.9	4.4	5.8	5.5	*6.2

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 3: Percent distribution of youth 12–21 years of age by selected illegal drug use measures and perceived risks associated with drug use, according to sex, age, Hispanic origin, and race for youth of non-Hispanic origin: United States, 1992—Con.

Selected illegal drug use measures	All ages 12–21 years	Age			Non-Hispanic origin		Hispanic origin		
		12–13 years	14–17 years	18–21 years	White	Black	All Hispanic	Mexican American[1]	Other Hispanic[2]
Male[3]—Con.	Percent distribution								
Ever used drugs	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
A lot of risk	81.6	81.5	80.2	82.4	81.4	83.1	86.9	85.7	89.6
Some risk	11.8	*15.7	12.9	10.9	12.3	9.0	7.0	*8.2	*5.2
Little/no risk	6.6	*2.4	6.9	6.8	6.3	7.9	*6.1	*6.3	*5.6
Female[3]									
Ever tried marijuana, cocaine, or any type of illegal drug	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Yes	30.6	7.9	25.4	47.2	33.5	23.1	25.5	26.2	24.5
No	69.4	92.0	74.6	52.8	66.5	76.9	74.5	73.8	75.4
Ever tried marijuana	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Yes	27.1	3.8	20.9	45.0	30.1	20.9	20.3	20.0	20.6
No	72.9	96.3	79.1	55.0	69.9	79.0	79.7	80.0	79.4
Age first tried marijuana[4]	...	...	...	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
12 years and under	...	...	...	11.0	10.2	*8.8	18.8	*20.7	*16.9
13–14 years	...	...	...	21.6	21.3	22.2	*16.7	*23.1	*10.2
15–16 years	...	...	...	34.3	35.2	33.8	31.4	*25.6	*37.3
17–21 years	...	...	...	33.1	33.3	34.9	32.6	*30.6	*35.6
Times used marijuana in lifetime	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Never used	72.9	96.3	79.1	55.0	69.9	79.0	79.7	80.0	79.4
1–2 times	7.7	2.6	6.8	11.2	7.6	10.1	6.4	5.6	7.5
3–9 times	6.5	*0.6	5.3	10.7	7.3	3.8	4.8	4.5	5.4
10–39 times	7.1	*0.4	5.5	12.1	8.2	4.3	4.5	5.0	*3.9
40–99 times	2.5	*0.0	1.8	4.4	2.8	*1.3	2.5	*2.5	*2.5
100 times or more	3.3	*0.1	1.5	6.7	4.1	*1.4	*1.9	*2.4	*1.3
Times used marijuana in past month	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Never used	72.9	96.3	79.2	55.0	70.0	79.0	79.8	80.1	79.4
None	17.8	2.3	12.6	30.6	19.4	15.1	12.3	13.3	11.0
1–2 times	4.5	*0.9	4.3	6.7	5.2	2.8	4.3	*3.4	5.6
3–9 times	2.6	*0.3	2.2	4.1	3.0	*1.9	*1.7	*1.5	*1.9
10 times or more	2.2	*0.3	1.6	3.6	2.4	*1.2	*1.8	*1.6	*2.1
Ever tried any form of cocaine[5]	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Yes	5.6	*0.5	2.6	11.2	6.5	*1.8	5.1	5.8	*4.1
No	94.4	99.5	97.4	88.8	93.5	98.2	94.9	94.2	95.9
Age first tried cocaine[6]	...	...	...	100.0	100.0	*100.0	100.0	100.0	*100.0
14 years and under	...	...	...	13.5	14.8	*–	*9.7	*10.9	*7.7
15–16 years	...	...	...	31.6	32.8	*24.4	*30.6	*26.1	*38.5
17–21 years	...	...	...	54.9	52.4	*73.3	*59.7	*63.0	*53.8
Times used cocaine in lifetime	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Never used	94.5	99.5	97.6	89.0	93.7	98.4	94.9	94.2	95.9
1–2 times	2.3	*0.5	1.2	4.1	2.6	*0.6	2.5	*2.7	*2.3
3–9 times	1.4	*–	*0.5	3.0	1.8	*0.2	*0.6	*1.1	*–
10–39 times	1.3	*0.0	*0.4	2.9	1.5	*0.7	*1.4	*1.2	*1.6
40 times or more	0.4	*–	*0.2	0.9	0.5	*0.0	*0.6	*0.9	*0.2
Times used cocaine in past month	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Never used	94.4	99.5	97.5	88.9	93.5	98.2	94.9	94.2	95.9
None	4.6	*0.2	1.8	9.4	5.4	*0.9	3.9	4.6	*2.9
1–2 times	0.8	*0.3	*0.4	1.3	0.8	*0.4	*0.9	*0.6	*1.2
3–9 times	*0.2	*–	*0.3	*0.2	*0.2	*0.2	*0.2	*0.4	*–
10 times or more	*0.1	*0.0	*–	*0.2	*0.1	*0.2	*0.0	*0.1	*–
Times tried crack/freebase forms in lifetime	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Never used any form of cocaine	94.5	99.5	97.6	88.9	93.6	98.4	94.9	94.2	95.9
Used cocaine but never used crack	2.9	*0.0	0.9	6.2	3.6	*0.8	2.2	*1.9	*2.6
1–2 times	1.4	*0.4	0.7	2.5	1.5	*0.5	*1.7	*2.4	*0.7
3–9 times	0.8	*–	*0.6	1.3	0.8	*0.2	*0.7	*1.2	*–
10 times or more	0.5	*0.0	*0.1	1.1	0.5	*0.2	*0.5	*0.4	*0.7

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 3: Percent distribution of youth 12–21 years of age by selected illegal drug use measures and perceived risks associated with drug use, according to sex, age, Hispanic origin, and race for youth of non-Hispanic origin: United States, 1992—Con.

Selected illegal drug use measures	All ages 12–21 years	Age			Non-Hispanic origin		Hispanic origin		
		12–13 years	14–17 years	18–21 years	White	Black	All Hispanic	Mexican American[1]	Other Hispanic[2]
Female[3]—Con.	Percent distribution								
Times used any other illegal drug in lifetime[7]	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
None	87.2	96.2	89.1	80.9	84.5	96.8	89.7	87.7	92.7
1–2 times	5.5	2.3	5.3	7.4	6.4	*1.9	6.0	7.8	*3.3
3–9 times	2.7	*1.2	1.9	4.4	3.4	*0.9	2.3	*2.1	*2.5
10–39 times	3.1	*0.3	2.7	5.0	4.0	*0.4	*1.2	*1.5	*0.8
40 times or more	1.4	*0.1	1.0	2.3	1.6	*0.1	*0.9	*1.0	*0.7
Ever taken steroid pills/shots without a prescription	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Yes	0.7	*0.7	*0.7	*0.6	0.5	*0.9	*1.1	*1.5	*0.5
No	99.3	99.3	99.3	99.4	99.5	99.1	98.8	98.5	99.5
How much risk with occasional drug use:									
All statuses	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
A lot of risk	73.4	75.7	73.7	71.9	72.4	77.2	77.3	78.9	74.9
Some risk	19.5	17.5	19.4	20.5	21.0	13.5	15.3	14.5	16.5
Little/no risk	7.2	6.8	6.9	7.6	6.6	9.3	7.4	6.6	8.6
Never used drugs	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
A lot of risk	78.9	76.1	79.1	81.2	79.5	77.7	81.9	84.5	78.2
Some risk	15.6	17.1	16.2	13.6	16.7	12.6	10.8	9.4	12.9
Little/no risk	5.4	6.8	4.7	5.2	3.8	9.7	7.3	6.2	9.1
Ever used drugs	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
A lot of risk	60.5	71.7	57.3	61.1	57.9	74.9	64.3	62.9	66.5
Some risk	28.3	21.3	29.2	28.4	29.7	17.2	28.0	29.2	26.1
Little/no risk	11.3	*7.0	13.5	10.5	12.4	7.9	*7.7	*7.9	*7.9
How much risk with regular drug use:									
All statuses	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
A lot of risk	91.0	88.8	91.4	91.7	93.0	85.8	89.9	91.0	88.4
Some risk	5.4	5.4	5.3	5.4	4.9	5.6	5.5	5.5	5.5
Little/no risk	3.6	5.7	3.3	2.9	2.1	8.6	4.5	*3.6	6.0
Never used drugs	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
A lot of risk	91.4	89.3	92.0	92.5	94.6	84.2	89.8	91.6	87.4
Some risk	4.7	5.0	4.9	4.1	3.5	5.9	5.0	*4.0	*6.4
Little/no risk	3.9	5.7	3.2	3.4	1.8	9.9	5.2	*4.4	*6.4
Ever used drugs	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
A lot of risk	90.1	85.0	89.5	90.8	89.8	91.3	90.0	89.0	91.6
Some risk	7.1	*10.9	6.8	7.0	7.6	*4.6	*7.1	*9.7	*3.4
Little/no risk	2.8	*4.0	3.7	2.3	2.6	*4.1	*2.7	*1.3	*5.4

[1]Includes Mexican/Mexicano, Mexican American, and Chicano.

[2]Includes Puerto Rican, Cuban, other Latin American, other Spanish, and multiple Hispanic origin (see appendixes I and II).

[3]Includes non-Hispanic racial groups not shown separately and unknown if Hispanic origin.

[4]Includes those 18–21 years of age who ever tried marijuana.

[5]Includes powder, crack, or freebase.

[6]Includes those 18–21 years of age who ever tried cocaine.

[7]Includes LSD, PCP, ecstasy, mushrooms, speed, ice, heroin, or pills without a doctor's prescription.

NOTE: Denominators exclude unknowns.

Table 4: Percent distribution of never-married youth 14–21 years of age by selected sexual experience measures, according to sex, age, Hispanic origin, and race for youth of non-Hispanic origin: United States, 1992

Selected sexual experience measures	All ages 14–21 years	Age			Non-Hispanic origin		Hispanic origin		
		14–15 years	16–17 years	18–21 years	White	Black	All Hispanic	Mexican American[1]	Other Hispanic[2]
Both sexes, never married[3]					Percent distribution				
Ever had sexual intercourse	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Yes	60.9	31.6	58.8	78.9	58.2	79.1	56.5	53.9	60.5
No	39.1	68.4	41.2	21.0	41.8	20.9	43.5	46.1	39.5
Age first had sex[4]	...	...	...	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
12 years or younger	...	...	...	7.9	5.2	18.1	6.5	*5.9	*7.3
13–14 years	...	...	...	16.8	14.4	25.5	17.4	14.5	21.2
15–16 years	...	...	...	38.3	40.3	32.2	39.5	39.6	39.5
17–21 years	...	...	...	37.0	40.1	24.1	36.8	40.2	32.2
Number of sexual partners in lifetime	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Never had sex	39.3	68.6	41.4	21.2	42.0	21.2	43.6	46.3	39.6
1 partner	16.7	13.5	19.7	16.9	17.1	13.5	17.7	19.2	15.3
2 partners	9.8	6.0	10.4	11.7	9.6	12.1	9.9	9.9	9.9
3–5 partners	17.3	7.3	16.6	23.6	16.5	24.7	15.3	13.8	17.5
6 partners or more	16.8	4.7	12.0	26.6	15.0	28.5	13.5	10.8	17.8
How many sexual partners in past 3 months	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Never had sex	39.3	68.5	41.4	21.1	41.9	21.1	43.6	46.3	39.6
None	13.8	10.2	14.0	15.9	13.4	15.5	14.7	15.2	14.0
1 partner	33.9	15.0	32.3	45.6	34.0	40.1	29.1	26.6	33.0
2 partners	6.8	2.9	5.9	9.5	6.1	9.7	6.3	6.9	5.2
3 partners or more	6.3	3.4	6.5	7.8	4.6	13.7	6.3	5.0	8.2
Used alcohol/drugs before last had sex[4]	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Yes	17.1	11.3	11.9	20.7	18.8	12.7	16.4	16.2	16.7
No	82.9	88.7	88.1	79.3	81.2	87.3	83.6	83.8	83.3
Condom used when last had sex[4]	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Yes	51.7	64.4	56.7	46.7	49.7	59.9	47.8	44.7	51.9
No	48.3	35.6	43.3	53.3	50.3	40.1	52.2	55.3	48.1
Contraceptive method used when last had sex[4]	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
None	15.8	17.4	16.4	15.2	13.3	19.4	22.7	26.1	18.2
Condom	44.6	59.1	50.8	38.7	43.2	49.1	42.9	39.3	47.7
Birth control pills	24.3	8.8	17.9	30.5	27.8	19.9	15.9	16.8	14.7
Withdrawal	12.5	13.2	12.5	12.3	13.1	7.8	16.4	15.7	17.3
Other method	2.8	*1.4	2.4	3.3	2.6	3.8	*2.2	*2.2	*2.2
Male, never married[3]									
Ever had sexual intercourse	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Yes	63.0	33.8	59.4	81.0	58.6	85.5	63.0	57.4	72.3
No	37.0	66.2	40.6	19.0	41.4	14.5	37.0	42.6	27.9
Age first had sex[4]	...	...	...	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
12 years or younger	...	...	...	12.1	8.0	29.0	9.0	*7.6	*10.9
13–14 years	...	...	...	18.0	15.5	27.1	19.6	14.2	26.7
15–16 years	...	...	...	37.0	40.4	26.9	37.1	40.6	32.4
17–21 years	...	...	...	33.0	36.1	16.9	34.3	37.6	30.4
Number of sexual partners in lifetime	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Never had sex	37.2	66.3	40.7	19.2	41.5	14.7	37.1	42.8	27.9
1 partner	15.4	13.8	17.1	15.3	16.0	9.5	15.9	18.0	12.5
2 partners	8.6	4.5	8.8	10.8	8.6	10.2	8.8	8.1	10.0
3–5 partners	17.8	9.3	17.5	22.7	16.6	24.8	17.7	16.3	20.1
6 partners or more	21.0	6.1	15.9	32.1	17.2	40.6	20.4	14.9	29.7
How many sexual partners in past 3 months	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Never had sex	37.2	66.3	40.7	19.2	41.5	14.7	37.1	42.7	27.9
None	16.5	12.6	16.0	19.0	15.8	17.5	17.7	17.7	17.6
1 partner	29.0	13.0	25.9	39.5	29.7	30.2	28.1	24.6	33.8
2 partners	8.0	3.3	7.1	11.2	6.9	14.0	7.5	7.4	7.6
3 partners or more	9.3	4.8	10.3	11.3	6.0	23.6	9.6	7.5	13.2
Used alcohol/drugs before last had sex[4]	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Yes	19.6	9.8	13.9	24.2	21.0	15.9	20.2	18.1	23.1
No	80.4	90.2	86.1	75.7	79.0	84.0	79.8	81.9	76.9

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 4: Percent distribution of never-married youth 14–21 years of age by selected sexual experience measures, according to sex, age, Hispanic origin, and race for youth of non-Hispanic origin: United States, 1992—Con.

Selected sexual experience measures	All ages 14–21 years	Age			Non-Hispanic origin		Hispanic origin		
		14–15 years	16–17 years	18–21 years	White	Black	All Hispanic	Mexican American[1]	Other Hispanic[2]
Male, never married[3]—Con.	Percent distribution								
Condom used when last had sex[4]	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Yes	57.7	72.7	61.9	52.4	55.9	64.9	54.1	48.4	61.3
No	42.3	27.2	38.1	47.6	44.1	35.1	46.0	51.4	38.5
Contraceptive method used when last had sex[4]	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
None	15.6	14.7	17.6	15.1	12.9	18.2	22.6	26.1	18.4
Condom	51.7	68.6	56.7	45.7	50.1	56.5	49.7	43.6	57.7
Birth control pills	18.2	5.5	11.9	23.8	21.3	14.1	14.2	14.9	13.2
Withdrawal	12.0	10.2	11.5	12.6	13.5	7.1	12.7	14.5	*10.4
Other method	2.5	*1.0	*2.4	2.8	2.2	4.1	*0.7	*1.1	*0.5
Female, never married[3]									
Ever had sexual intercourse	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Yes	58.6	29.3	58.1	76.7	57.7	72.7	48.8	49.4	47.9
No	41.4	70.8	41.9	23.3	42.2	27.3	51.2	50.7	51.9
Age first had sex[4]	...	...	...	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
12 years or younger	...	...	...	3.0	2.0	*6.3	*2.3	*2.6	*1.3
13–14 years	...	...	...	15.4	13.2	23.8	13.3	*14.9	*11.3
15–16 years	...	...	...	39.9	40.1	37.9	43.8	37.6	51.0
17–21 years	...	...	...	41.7	44.7	32.0	40.6	44.8	35.1
Number of sexual partners in lifetime	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Never had sex	41.6	71.1	42.1	23.4	42.4	27.5	51.5	51.0	52.1
1 partner	18.2	13.1	22.4	18.8	18.2	17.5	19.8	20.9	18.2
2 partners	11.1	7.5	12.0	12.6	10.6	13.9	11.3	12.3	9.7
3–5 partners	16.8	5.2	15.6	24.7	16.3	24.6	12.3	10.4	14.8
6 partners or more	12.3	3.2	8.0	20.5	12.5	16.5	5.2	*5.4	*5.0
How many sexual partners in past 3 months	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Never had sex	41.5	70.8	42.1	23.4	42.4	27.4	51.5	51.1	52.1
None	11.0	7.7	11.8	12.4	10.7	13.5	11.1	11.9	10.3
1 partner	39.1	17.1	39.0	52.6	38.6	49.8	30.4	29.1	32.1
2 partners	5.4	2.4	4.6	7.6	5.2	5.4	4.8	6.3	*2.7
3 partners or more	3.0	1.9	2.5	3.9	3.1	3.8	*2.2	*1.6	*2.9
Used alcohol/drugs before last had sex[4]	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Yes	14.2	13.0	9.7	16.6	16.4	8.8	10.5	13.5	*6.4
No	85.8	87.0	90.2	83.4	83.6	91.2	89.5	86.5	93.6
Condom used when last had sex[4]	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Yes	44.9	54.5	51.1	39.9	43.1	54.2	38.1	38.9	37.1
No	55.1	45.7	48.9	60.1	56.9	45.8	62.0	61.1	62.9
Contraceptive method used when last had sex[4]	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
None	16.0	20.7	15.1	15.4	13.7	20.8	22.7	26.0	18.1
Condom	36.6	47.6	44.5	30.6	36.0	40.3	32.6	33.1	32.1
Birth control pills	31.2	12.9	24.4	38.3	34.6	26.8	18.5	19.5	17.0
Withdrawal	13.0	16.9	13.5	11.8	12.7	8.6	21.9	17.3	27.9
Other method	3.2	*1.9	*2.5	3.8	3.0	*3.6	*4.4	*4.1	*4.9

[1]Includes Mexican/Mexicano, Mexican American, and Chicano.

[2]Includes Puerto Rican, Cuban, other Latin American, other Spanish, and multiple Hispanic origin (see appendixes I and II).

[3]Includes non-Hispanic racial groups not shown separately and unknown if Hispanic origin.

[4]Includes those 18–21 years of age who ever had sexual intercourse.

NOTE: Denominators exclude unknowns.

Table 5. Percent distribution of youth 12–21 years of age by HIV/AIDS education, according to sex, age, Hispanic origin, and race for youth of non-Hispanic origin: United States, 1992

HIV/AIDS education	All ages 12–21 years	Age			Non-Hispanic origin		Hispanic origin		
		12–13 years	14–17 years	18–21 years	White	Black	All Hispanic	Mexican American[1]	Other Hispanic[2]
Both sexes[3]	Percent distribution								
Discussed HIV/AIDS with adult family member	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Yes	68.6	63.8	69.3	70.4	69.0	74.5	66.0	61.5	73.1
No	26.0	26.2	25.0	26.9	25.6	22.2	27.9	31.8	21.5
Not sure	5.4	10.1	5.7	2.6	5.4	3.3	6.2	6.7	5.3
Received HIV/AIDS education in school	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Yes	81.5	80.1	88.3	75.4	81.9	83.1	79.8	77.7	83.0
No	14.6	13.3	8.2	21.7	14.2	14.0	16.0	17.5	13.6
Not sure	3.9	6.6	3.5	2.9	3.9	2.8	4.2	4.8	3.3
Male[3]									
Discussed HIV/AIDS with adult family member	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Yes	64.7	59.9	65.6	66.3	64.6	73.0	61.9	58.3	68.2
No	29.1	28.4	28.0	30.6	29.3	22.9	31.0	34.2	25.5
Not sure	6.2	11.6	6.4	3.1	6.1	4.1	7.1	7.5	6.4
Received HIV/AIDS education in school	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Yes	83.3	82.7	89.0	77.7	83.9	83.9	80.0	78.2	83.4
No	12.9	11.6	7.7	18.9	12.4	12.6	15.3	17.2	12.1
Not sure	3.9	5.7	3.3	3.4	3.6	3.4	4.6	4.7	*4.5
Female[3]									
Discussed HIV/AIDS with adult family member	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Yes	72.6	67.8	73.1	74.5	73.4	76.1	70.4	65.3	78.0
No	22.9	23.8	21.8	23.4	21.8	21.5	24.4	29.1	17.8
Not sure	4.5	8.4	5.0	2.1	4.8	2.4	5.1	5.7	*4.3
Received HIV/AIDS education in school	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Yes	79.6	77.3	87.7	73.1	79.9	82.3	79.4	77.2	82.8
No	16.3	15.1	8.6	24.4	15.9	15.5	16.8	18.0	15.1
Not sure	4.0	7.6	3.7	2.5	4.3	2.3	3.7	4.9	*2.0

[1]Includes Mexican/Mexicano, Mexican American, and Chicano.

[2]Includes Puerto Rican, Cuban, other Latin American, other Spanish, and multiple Hispanic origin (see appendixes I and II).

[3]Includes non-Hispanic racial groups not shown separately and unknown if Hispanic origin.

NOTE: Denominators exclude unknowns.

Table 6. Percent distribution of youth 12–21 years of age by selected runaway and homeless experiences, according to sex, age, Hispanic origin, and race for youth of non-Hispanic origin: United States, 1992

Runaway/homeless experiences	All ages 12–21 years	Age			Non-Hispanic origin		Hispanic origin		
		12–13 years	14–17 years	18–21 years	White	Black	All Hispanic	Mexican American[1]	Other Hispanic[2]
Both sexes[3]					Percent distribution				
Stayed out overnight without permission in past year[4]	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
None	84.2	93.5	80.6	80.7	84.8	81.8	86.3	85.2	88.2
1 night	6.3	3.5	7.6	6.6	5.9	7.3	4.7	4.7	4.7
2 to 6 nights	6.7	2.5	8.2	8.6	6.6	8.3	5.8	7.1	3.5
7 nights or more	2.8	*0.5	3.6	4.1	2.7	2.6	3.2	3.0	3.7
Stayed overnight at an at-risk location[5]	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Yes	13.8	12.5	14.1	14.2	14.6	10.1	12.1	14.5	8.1
No	86.2	87.5	85.9	85.8	85.4	89.9	87.9	85.5	91.9
Male[3]									
Stayed out overnight without permission in past year[4]	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
None	82.5	92.5	79.2	76.6	83.6	79.0	82.9	82.8	82.8
1 night	6.4	3.9	7.6	7.0	5.7	7.5	5.3	5.1	*5.8
2 to 6 nights	7.5	2.8	8.9	10.6	7.4	9.0	7.2	8.5	*4.8
7 nights or more	3.6	*0.8	4.4	5.8	3.3	4.5	4.6	*3.6	*6.6
Stayed overnight at an at-risk location[5]	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Yes	17.4	14.9	16.7	19.6	18.3	13.9	15.9	18.8	10.7
No	82.6	85.1	83.3	80.4	81.7	86.1	84.1	81.2	89.3
Female[3]									
Stayed out overnight without permission in past year[4]	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
None	85.9	94.5	82.0	84.2	86.0	84.4	89.7	87.6	92.8
1 night	6.1	3.1	7.6	6.2	6.1	7.1	4.0	*4.3	*3.6
2 to 6 nights	6.0	2.1	7.6	7.0	5.8	7.5	4.5	5.8	*2.4
7 nights or more	2.0	*0.2	2.7	2.6	2.1	*0.9	*1.9	*2.4	*1.1
Stayed overnight at an at-risk location[5]	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Yes	10.1	10.1	11.3	9.0	10.9	6.2	8.0	9.6	5.7
No	89.9	89.9	88.7	91.0	89.1	93.8	92.0	90.4	94.3

[1]Includes Mexican/Mexicano, Mexican American, and Chicano.

[2]Includes Puerto Rican, Cuban, other Latin American, other Spanish, and multiple Hispanic origin (see appendixes I and II).

[3]Includes non-Hispanic racial groups not shown separately and unknown if Hispanic origin.

[4]Includes only youth who need permission.

[5]At-risk location includes youth or adult shelter; public place such as a train or bus station, restaurant, office building; abandoned building; car, truck, or van; outside in a park, on the street, under a bridge or overhang, or on a rooftop; in a subway or other underground place; or the home of someone they did not know.

NOTE: Denominators exclude unknowns.

Table 7: Percent distribution of youth 12–21 years of age by selected behaviors related to intentional injuries, according to sex, age, Hispanic origin, and race for youth of non-Hispanic origin: United States, 1992

Selected behaviors	All ages 12–21 years	Age			Non-Hispanic origin		Hispanic origin		
		12–13 years	14–17 years	18–21 years	White	Black	All Hispanic	Mexican American[1]	Other Hispanic[2]
Both sexes[3]	Percent distribution								
Number of times in physical fight in past year	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
None	61.2	50.4	57.2	70.7	63.3	51.0	60.1	60.8	58.9
1–3 times	28.9	35.3	31.0	23.2	27.3	36.8	29.9	30.1	29.7
4 times or more	10.0	14.3	11.7	6.0	9.4	12.3	10.0	9.2	11.4
With whom fought within past year[4]	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Stranger	13.1	6.3	11.9	21.1	12.2	10.4	19.8	20.6	18.6
Friend	37.4	47.7	37.4	28.1	34.5	49.4	36.3	32.8	41.8
Boy, girlfriend, or date	6.3	1.5	4.2	13.7	6.2	7.0	5.1	6.2	*3.4
Parent or sibling	17.2	21.6	18.8	10.8	20.0	9.9	14.7	14.9	14.4
Other	5.2	4.7	5.2	5.6	5.0	4.3	5.7	5.5	*6.0
More than one of the persons listed above	20.8	18.2	22.4	20.8	22.2	19.0	18.4	20.0	15.9
Carried a weapon in past month	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
No days	85.2	87.3	83.0	86.3	85.1	84.4	85.3	84.0	87.4
1–5 days	8.1	8.8	10.2	5.7	7.7	8.9	9.4	10.9	7.0
6 days or more	6.7	3.8	6.8	8.0	7.1	6.7	5.3	5.1	5.7
Type of weapon carried most often in past month[5]	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Firearm	22.4	22.5	16.6	29.5	21.9	30.2	17.2	18.4	*14.6
Knife	57.1	51.5	64.1	51.0	59.3	49.0	59.3	57.1	63.9
Club	13.1	16.6	12.0	12.7	11.8	14.5	17.6	20.8	*11.2
Other weapon	7.5	9.5	7.3	6.9	7.1	*6.1	*5.9	*3.7	*10.2
Male[3]									
Number of times in physical fight in past year	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
None	51.9	38.1	48.8	62.8	53.2	44.8	50.2	52.7	45.8
1–3 times	35.1	43.2	36.6	29.1	34.5	39.9	36.7	35.5	38.9
4 times or more	13.0	18.7	14.6	8.2	12.3	15.3	13.1	11.9	15.4
With whom fought within past year[4]	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Stranger	17.2	8.1	15.0	28.9	16.3	12.2	25.5	28.3	21.0
Friend	44.0	53.4	46.1	32.2	41.9	56.3	41.3	35.5	50.1
Boy, girlfriend, or date	2.0	*1.0	2.1	2.5	1.7	*2.9	*1.7	*1.5	*2.1
Parent or sibling	10.2	13.7	9.0	8.6	11.8	5.9	9.4	11.8	*5.5
Other	6.2	6.0	6.3	6.4	6.1	4.0	6.3	*6.6	*5.8
More than one of the persons listed above	20.5	17.8	21.6	21.4	22.1	18.7	16.0	16.3	15.5
Carried a weapon in past month	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
No days	76.2	78.5	73.2	78.1	74.5	79.0	77.9	76.7	79.9
1–5 days	13.0	14.6	15.6	9.5	13.3	12.3	13.6	15.0	11.3
6 days or more	10.8	7.0	11.3	12.4	12.1	8.7	8.4	8.2	8.8
Type of weapon carried most often in past month[5]	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Firearm	24.2	24.0	18.7	31.2	23.2	34.6	20.3	22.1	*16.9
Knife	55.8	50.5	63.0	49.5	58.8	41.6	57.4	53.6	65.6
Club	13.7	15.7	13.1	13.4	12.0	17.0	18.9	22.7	*11.3
Other weapon	6.3	9.7	5.2	5.9	5.9	*6.8	*3.4	*2.2	*6.3
Female[3]									
Number of times in physical fight in past year	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
None	70.6	63.5	66.0	78.5	73.4	57.3	70.7	70.2	71.5
1–3 times	22.5	26.9	25.2	17.6	20.1	33.5	22.6	23.8	21.0
4 times or more	6.9	9.6	8.7	3.9	6.5	9.2	6.7	6.1	7.5
With whom fought within past year[4]	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Stranger	6.3	*3.0	7.2	7.9	4.9	8.0	9.6	*6.3	*14.6
Friend	26.5	37.5	23.8	21.2	21.3	40.5	27.4	27.7	26.8
Boy, girlfriend, or date	13.6	*2.4	7.5	32.5	14.1	12.4	11.3	14.8	*5.9
Parent or sibling	28.8	35.9	34.3	14.4	34.5	15.2	24.5	20.6	30.5
Other	3.5	*2.2	3.6	4.3	3.0	4.7	*4.6	*3.6	*5.9
More than one of the persons listed above	21.3	18.9	23.7	19.7	22.2	19.3	22.6	26.6	*16.3

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 7: Percent distribution of youth 12–21 years of age by selected behaviors related to intentional injuries, according to sex, age, Hispanic origin, and race for youth of non-Hispanic origin: United States, 1992—Con.

Selected behaviors	All ages 12–21 years	Age			Non-Hispanic origin		Hispanic origin		
		12–13 years	14–17 years	18–21 years	White	Black	All Hispanic	Mexican American[1]	Other Hispanic[2]
Female[3]—Con.	Percent distribution								
Carried a weapon in past month	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
No days	94.3	96.5	93.1	94.3	95.6	89.8	93.2	92.3	94.6
1–5 days	3.2	2.9	4.6	2.0	2.2	5.4	4.8	6.2	*2.7
6 days or more	2.5	*0.6	2.3	3.7	2.2	4.8	*1.9	*1.4	*2.8
Type of weapon carried most often in past month[5]	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	*100.0
Firearm	14.8	*13.0	*8.0	23.1	14.1	21.3	*5.9	*5.6	*6.7
Knife	62.4	57.7	69.0	56.1	61.6	64.3	65.9	70.0	*57.8
Club	10.4	*22.0	*7.6	*9.9	10.7	*9.7	*13.3	*14.4	*11.1
Other weapon	12.5	*7.3	15.6	*10.4	13.5	*4.7	*14.8	*8.9	*24.4

[1]Includes Mexican/Mexicano, Mexican American, and Chicano.

[2]Includes Puerto Rican, Cuban, other Latin American, other Spanish, and multiple Hispanic origin (see appendixes I and II).

[3]Includes non-Hispanic racial groups not shown separately and unknown if Hispanic origin.

[4]Includes those who have been in a physical fight in the past year.

[5]Includes those who carried a weapon in the past month.

NOTE: Denominators exclude unknowns.

Table 8. Percent distribution of youth 12–21 years of age by selected safety measures related to unintentional injuries, according to sex, age, Hispanic origin, and race for youth of non-Hispanic origin: United States, 1992

Safety measures	All ages 12–21 years	Age			Non-Hispanic origin		Hispanic origin		
		12–13 years	14–17 years	18–21 years	White	Black	All Hispanic	Mexican American[1]	Other Hispanic[2]
Both sexes[3]	Percent distribution								
How often used seatbelts	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Never or rarely	17.9	14.1	18.2	19.5	16.8	22.1	19.7	18.0	22.4
Sometimes or most times	47.9	53.9	48.6	44.0	47.1	52.3	47.4	46.3	49.1
Always	34.2	32.0	33.2	36.5	36.1	25.7	33.0	35.7	28.6
Times rode a motorcycle in past year	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
None	75.5	79.2	75.6	73.5	70.9	88.6	82.2	82.5	81.8
1–10 times	17.5	14.8	17.3	19.1	20.4	8.6	13.6	13.2	14.3
More than 10 times	7.0	6.0	7.1	7.4	8.6	2.8	4.2	4.4	4.0
Used a helmet on motorcycle in past year[4]	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Never or rarely	37.1	34.2	40.3	35.4	35.3	37.6	46.4	54.5	33.8
Sometimes or most times	18.8	17.6	18.6	19.6	19.0	21.3	18.6	18.6	18.4
Always	44.1	48.3	41.1	45.0	45.7	41.1	35.0	26.8	47.8
Times rode a bicycle in past year	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
None	25.1	7.5	19.3	40.3	23.3	27.7	30.4	31.8	28.2
1–10 times	32.8	20.3	35.0	37.2	32.4	33.2	33.2	33.2	33.0
More than 10 times	42.1	72.1	45.7	22.5	44.3	39.1	36.4	35.0	38.8
Used a helmet on bicycle in past year[5]	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Never or rarely	93.6	89.5	94.7	95.6	93.8	94.6	94.0	93.9	94.2
Sometimes or most times	4.5	7.6	4.0	2.9	4.5	4.1	3.9	4.1	*3.6
Always	1.8	2.9	1.2	1.5	1.7	1.3	2.1	*1.9	*2.3
Adult or lifeguard watching when swimming in past year	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Did not swim in past year	12.0	6.1	8.4	18.7	7.2	29.7	14.2	16.1	11.0
Never or rarely	24.7	6.4	22.5	36.6	27.6	13.3	23.7	25.3	21.2
Sometimes or most times	35.5	32.9	42.8	29.7	39.4	21.0	32.8	31.0	35.7
Always	27.8	54.5	26.3	15.1	25.7	36.0	29.3	27.6	32.1
Male[3]									
How often used seatbelts	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Never or rarely	21.3	13.9	22.2	24.6	21.0	23.9	21.5	19.5	25.1
Sometimes or most times	48.8	57.0	48.7	44.2	48.2	52.2	48.5	47.3	50.7
Always	29.9	29.2	29.1	31.2	30.7	23.8	29.9	33.2	24.2
Times rode a motorcycle in past year	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
None	68.7	72.7	69.4	65.9	63.0	83.8	76.3	76.4	76.2
1–10 times	20.3	18.1	19.5	22.2	23.3	11.5	17.2	16.6	18.4
More than 10 times	11.0	9.2	11.1	11.9	13.6	4.8	6.4	7.0	*5.3
Used a helmet on motorcycle in past year[4]	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Never or rarely	35.9	31.0	40.4	33.8	33.9	35.0	47.3	54.8	34.4
Sometimes or most times	21.6	20.0	21.4	23.1	22.2	22.0	22.8	20.0	27.0
Always	42.3	49.0	38.2	43.2	43.9	43.3	29.9	24.8	38.6
Times rode a bicycle in past year	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
None	19.6	5.6	14.5	32.8	19.0	19.8	22.3	23.6	20.0
1–10 times	28.3	13.3	26.8	38.2	27.3	28.6	30.9	31.6	29.6
More than 10 times	52.1	81.1	58.8	29.0	53.7	51.7	46.9	44.9	50.4
Used a helmet on bicycle in past year[5]	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Never or rarely	92.8	88.5	93.4	95.5	92.9	94.7	93.2	93.3	93.2
Sometimes or most times	5.2	8.3	5.1	2.8	5.3	3.7	4.6	4.6	*4.6
Always	2.0	3.2	1.5	1.7	1.8	*1.6	*2.2	*2.2	*2.2
Adult or lifeguard watching when swimming in past year	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Did not swim in past year	11.1	6.0	8.1	17.1	7.3	24.5	13.4	15.0	10.4
Never or rarely	28.0	6.6	25.7	42.2	30.8	16.1	29.2	29.8	28.1
Sometimes or most times	34.5	32.0	42.1	28.2	38.1	21.3	31.4	31.6	30.9
Always	26.3	55.4	24.2	12.4	23.8	38.1	26.1	23.5	30.7

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 8. Percent distribution of youth 12–21 years of age by selected safety measures related to unintentional injuries, according to sex, age, Hispanic origin, and race for youth of non-Hispanic origin: United States, 1992—Con.

Safety measures	All ages 12–21 years	Age			Non-Hispanic origin		Hispanic origin		
		12–13 years	14–17 years	18–21 years	White	Black	All Hispanic	Mexican American[1]	Other Hispanic[2]
Female[3]	Percent distribution								
How often used seatbelts	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Never or rarely	14.3	14.3	14.1	14.6	12.6	20.2	17.7	16.2	19.8
Sometimes or most times	47.1	50.7	48.5	43.9	46.0	52.3	46.1	45.2	47.5
Always	38.6	35.0	37.4	41.6	41.4	27.5	36.2	38.6	32.7
Times rode a motorcycle in past year	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
None	82.4	86.1	82.1	80.9	78.8	93.4	88.4	89.4	86.9
1–10 times	14.7	11.4	15.0	16.1	17.6	5.8	9.7	9.3	10.4
More than 10 times	2.9	2.5	2.9	3.0	3.6	*0.7	*1.9	*1.3	*2.7
Used a helmet on motorcycle in past year[4]	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Never or rarely	39.3	40.5	40.2	38.3	37.8	44.3	44.2	53.8	*32.7
Sometimes or most times	13.4	12.7	13.6	13.6	13.5	*19.2	*9.5	*14.4	*3.6
Always	47.2	46.8	46.4	48.1	48.6	35.9	45.9	*31.8	62.7
Times rode a bicycle in past year	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
None	30.7	9.6	24.3	47.4	27.7	35.7	39.2	41.4	36.0
1–10 times	37.4	27.8	43.5	36.3	37.5	37.9	35.6	35.1	36.4
More than 10 times	32.0	62.6	32.2	16.2	34.9	26.3	25.2	23.6	27.6
Used a helmet on bicycle in past year[5]	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Never or rarely	94.6	90.6	96.3	95.8	94.9	94.4	95.1	94.9	95.3
Sometimes or most times	3.9	6.8	2.8	2.9	3.7	4.7	*2.9	*3.5	*2.2
Always	1.5	2.7	*0.9	1.3	1.5	*1.0	*1.9	*1.7	*2.4
Adult or lifeguard watching when swimming in past year	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Did not swim in past year	12.9	6.3	8.8	20.2	7.2	35.0	15.0	17.4	11.6
Never or rarely	21.3	6.3	19.0	31.0	24.4	10.4	17.9	20.1	14.6
Sometimes or most times	36.5	33.8	43.5	31.1	40.7	20.7	34.4	30.3	40.3
Always	29.3	53.6	28.6	17.7	27.6	33.9	32.7	32.1	33.5

[1]Includes Mexican/Mexicano, Mexican American, and Chicano.

[2]Includes Puerto Rican, Cuban, other Latin American, other Spanish, and multiple Hispanic origin (see appendixes I and II).

[3]Includes non-Hispanic racial groups not shown separately and unknown if Hispanic origin.

[4]Includes those who rode a motorcycle in the past year.

[5]Includes those who rode a bicycle in the past year.

NOTE: Denominators exclude unknowns.

Table 9: Percent distribution of youth 12–21 years of age by perceived weight status and selected weight control measures, according to sex, age, Hispanic origin, and race for youth of non-Hispanic origin: United States, 1992

Perceived weight status and selected weight control measures	All ages 12–21 years	Age			Non-Hispanic origin		Hispanic origin		
		12–13 years	14–17 years	18–21 years	White	Black	All Hispanic	Mexican American[1]	Other Hispanic[2]
Both sexes[3]	Percent distribution								
Perceived weight	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Underweight	15.0	14.7	14.9	15.2	14.9	14.9	14.2	13.6	15.3
About right	51.4	56.6	53.3	46.7	49.6	58.4	51.6	50.9	52.6
Slightly overweight	28.7	24.1	27.1	32.7	30.7	21.3	28.8	29.7	27.4
Very overweight	4.9	4.6	4.7	5.3	4.8	5.3	5.4	5.9	4.6
What trying to do about weight	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Nothing	24.6	28.4	24.0	23.2	26.6	18.8	20.6	19.6	22.2
Trying to lose weight	36.5	33.4	36.1	38.6	38.4	28.0	37.9	39.8	34.8
Trying to maintain weight	22.3	25.8	22.0	20.7	20.6	26.3	26.4	28.0	23.9
Trying to gain weight	16.6	12.5	18.0	17.5	14.4	26.9	15.1	12.6	19.0
Any attempt in past week to lose/keep from gaining weight	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Yes	46.1	50.4	46.2	43.7	47.2	37.7	48.9	51.0	45.5
No	53.9	49.6	53.8	56.3	52.8	62.3	51.1	49.0	54.5
Type(s) of attempts in past week[4,5]									
Dieted	47.3	44.1	45.6	51.0	47.3	45.4	48.5	51.9	42.2
Exercised	86.3	88.8	87.5	83.5	87.7	80.5	84.9	85.2	84.4
Dieted and exercised	37.9	37.0	37.2	39.2	38.6	35.2	36.4	38.9	31.8
Vomited	3.9	3.0	4.8	3.6	3.4	4.4	4.0	3.5	*4.9
Diet pills	3.4	*0.9	3.0	5.4	3.3	3.5	2.7	*2.8	*2.5
Some other method	11.4	14.3	11.0	9.9	10.3	19.3	11.0	11.4	10.3
Perceived weight and weight control attempts in past week:									
Underweight	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
None	83.4	72.3	83.4	89.2	84.1	83.4	82.6	77.2	90.8
1 or more attempts	16.6	27.7	16.6	10.8	15.9	16.7	17.4	22.8	*9.2
About right	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
None	61.6	57.9	61.5	64.2	60.5	69.2	59.7	58.2	62.1
1 or more attempts	38.4	42.1	38.5	35.8	39.5	30.8	40.3	41.8	37.9
Slightly overweight	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
None	29.0	20.4	27.6	33.6	29.0	36.5	24.2	24.3	24.2
1 or more attempts	71.0	79.6	72.5	66.4	71.0	63.5	75.8	75.9	75.8
Very overweight	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
None	28.3	26.1	23.3	33.8	28.5	29.8	27.8	*27.7	*27.6
1 or more attempts	71.6	74.2	76.5	66.3	71.5	70.2	72.6	72.3	72.4
Male[3]									
Perceived weight	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Underweight	19.1	15.7	19.2	20.8	20.0	15.4	15.9	15.1	17.1
About right	56.8	60.9	59.1	52.2	55.1	67.0	56.7	56.3	57.6
Slightly overweight	21.4	20.0	19.2	24.6	22.2	15.0	25.2	25.2	25.1
Very overweight	2.7	3.5	2.6	2.3	2.7	2.7	2.2	3.3	*0.2
What trying to do about weight	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Nothing	28.7	31.4	28.6	27.2	32.1	19.5	22.9	21.6	25.1
Trying to lose weight	22.7	24.4	21.5	23.0	22.6	17.6	29.1	31.1	25.6
Trying to maintain weight	22.7	25.3	21.7	22.3	20.7	27.1	28.7	30.5	25.6
Trying to gain weight	25.9	18.8	28.2	27.5	24.6	35.8	19.3	16.8	23.7
Any attempt in past week to lose/keep from gaining weight	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Yes	36.1	45.1	34.2	33.1	34.8	34.0	43.2	46.5	37.3
No	63.9	54.9	65.8	66.9	65.2	66.0	56.8	53.5	62.8
Type(s) of attempts in past week[4,5]									
Dieted	37.4	40.6	34.7	37.9	35.0	41.7	40.6	42.1	37.5
Exercised	88.2	88.3	88.5	87.7	89.0	84.4	89.4	88.0	92.7
Dieted and exercised	30.7	33.3	29.2	30.3	29.1	33.8	32.5	32.4	32.6
Vomited	3.3	3.0	4.4	2.3	2.6	*4.5	*2.8	*2.6	*3.3
Diet pills	1.8	*0.6	2.2	2.4	1.6	*2.4	*1.6	*2.1	*0.7
Some other method	12.7	13.4	13.6	11.2	12.5	17.2	11.4	13.0	*8.0

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 9: Percent distribution of youth 12–21 years of age by perceived weight status and selected weight control measures, according to sex, age, Hispanic origin, and race for youth of non-Hispanic origin: United States, 1992—Con.

Perceived weight status and selected weight control measures	All ages 12–21 years	Age			Non-Hispanic origin		Hispanic origin		
		12–13 years	14–17 years	18–21 years	White	Black	All Hispanic	Mexican American[1]	Other Hispanic[2]
Male[3]—Con.	Percent distribution								
Perceived weight and weight control attempts in past week:									
Underweight	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
None	87.6	74.8	88.5	92.2	89.1	84.0	84.7	80.4	91.3
1 or more attempts	12.4	25.4	11.5	7.8	10.8	16.0	15.3	*19.6	*8.7
About right	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
None	68.8	61.1	70.4	71.8	69.9	70.1	63.2	59.8	68.8
1 or more attempts	31.2	38.8	29.6	28.2	30.1	29.9	36.8	40.1	31.2
Slightly overweight	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
None	34.6	23.9	35.8	38.5	36.9	37.4	26.5	25.2	28.7
1 or more attempts	65.4	75.9	64.2	61.5	63.1	62.6	73.5	74.8	71.3
Very overweight	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	*100.0
None	24.1	*33.1	*11.6	30.7	23.6	*18.8	*34.7	*31.9	*100.0
1 or more attempts	75.9	66.9	88.4	68.6	76.4	81.2	*65.3	*68.1	*–
Female[3]									
Perceived weight	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Underweight	10.8	13.6	10.4	9.8	9.8	14.4	12.5	11.8	13.5
About right	45.9	52.0	47.2	41.4	44.1	49.7	46.0	44.7	47.9
Slightly overweight	36.1	28.6	35.4	40.6	39.1	27.9	32.8	34.7	29.7
Very overweight	7.3	5.7	7.0	8.2	7.0	8.1	8.8	8.8	8.8
What trying to do about weight	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Nothing	20.5	25.2	19.1	19.3	21.2	18.2	18.2	17.2	19.5
Trying to lose weight	50.5	42.9	51.3	53.6	54.1	38.5	47.3	49.9	43.7
Trying to maintain weight	21.8	26.2	22.3	19.2	20.4	25.5	23.9	25.0	22.4
Trying to gain weight	7.2	5.7	7.3	7.9	4.3	17.8	10.5	7.8	14.5
Any attempt in past week to lose/keep from gaining weight	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Yes	56.2	55.9	58.8	53.8	59.5	41.5	55.1	56.3	53.4
No	43.8	44.1	41.2	46.2	40.5	58.6	44.9	43.7	46.6
Type(s) of attempts in past week[4,5]									
Dieted	53.8	47.1	52.3	58.8	54.4	48.5	55.0	61.3	45.4
Exercised	85.1	89.2	86.9	81.0	87.0	77.3	81.0	82.7	78.7
Dieted and exercised	42.6	40.1	42.1	44.6	44.2	36.2	39.6	44.9	31.3
Vomited	4.3	2.9	5.1	4.3	3.9	*4.3	5.0	*4.5	*5.8
Diet pills	4.5	*1.2	3.6	7.2	4.3	*4.5	*3.7	*3.5	*4.0
Some other method	10.5	15.0	9.4	9.1	9.0	21.0	10.6	9.8	11.9
Perceived weight and weight control attempts in past week:									
Underweight	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
None	76.0	69.4	73.6	83.1	73.8	82.5	80.2	72.4	90.3
1 or more attempts	24.0	30.6	26.4	16.8	26.2	17.5	19.8	*27.6	*9.7
About right	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
None	52.7	53.9	49.9	54.9	48.8	67.8	55.1	55.8	54.5
1 or more attempts	47.3	46.1	50.1	45.2	51.2	32.2	44.9	44.4	45.5
Slightly overweight	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
None	25.6	17.7	22.9	30.8	24.6	36.0	22.4	23.5	20.6
1 or more attempts	74.4	82.3	77.1	69.2	75.4	64.0	77.6	76.5	79.0
Very overweight	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
None	29.9	*21.6	27.7	34.6	30.2	33.5	26.0	*25.9	*25.7
1 or more attempts	70.1	78.4	72.1	65.4	69.7	66.5	74.0	73.1	74.3

[1]Includes Mexican/Mexicano, Mexican American, and Chicano.

[2]Includes Puerto Rican, Cuban, other Latin American, other Spanish, and multiple Hispanic origin (see appendixes I and II).

[3]Includes non-Hispanic racial groups not shown separately and unknown if Hispanic origin.

[4]Categories are not mutually exclusive.

[5]Includes those who attempted to lose/keep from gaining weight in the past week.

NOTE: Denominators exclude unknowns.

Table 10: Percent distribution of youth 12–21 years of age by participation in selected physical activities in past week, according to sex, age, Hispanic origin, and race for youth of non-Hispanic origin: United States, 1992

Participation in selected physical activities	All ages 12–21 years	Age			Non-Hispanic origin		Hispanic origin		
		12–13 years	14–17 years	18–21 years	White	Black	All Hispanic	Mexican American[1]	Other Hispanic[2]
Both sexes[3]	Percent distribution								
Number of physical activities in past week	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
None	2.2	0.9	1.6	3.5	2.2	2.2	2.3	3.0	*1.3
1–2 activities	17.0	6.3	12.9	26.9	16.7	19.0	16.8	16.3	17.6
3–4 activities	27.1	18.2	24.1	34.8	26.8	28.4	27.5	25.3	31.0
5 activities or more	53.7	74.6	61.4	34.9	54.3	50.4	53.4	55.4	50.2
Took part in activities that caused sweating/hard breathing in past week	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
None[4]	24.9	13.0	19.3	36.9	23.9	28.0	27.5	27.4	27.6
1 or 2 days	21.3	18.4	19.2	25.0	21.5	19.5	23.1	22.2	24.5
3 days or more	53.7	68.6	61.5	38.1	54.6	52.5	49.5	50.4	48.0
Participated in past week:									
Stretching exercises	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
None	32.0	18.9	27.7	43.3	31.1	38.7	30.8	30.9	30.6
1–3 days	32.0	33.6	30.2	32.9	31.6	32.1	33.5	32.3	35.4
4–6 days	23.3	29.4	27.1	16.2	24.2	18.3	24.1	24.8	22.8
7 days	12.7	18.1	15.0	7.6	13.1	10.8	11.7	12.0	11.3
Exercises for muscles	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
None	36.9	27.1	31.2	47.8	36.0	43.2	36.5	35.3	38.3
1–3 days	28.7	29.9	28.6	28.3	29.1	27.5	27.7	27.8	27.6
4–6 days	23.1	26.5	26.6	17.7	23.5	18.5	24.2	23.6	25.3
7 days	11.3	16.5	13.6	6.2	11.3	10.8	11.6	13.2	8.9
House cleaning or yard work 30 or more minutes	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
None	17.2	15.9	16.3	18.9	17.0	15.8	19.9	19.2	20.9
1–3 days	48.7	46.5	48.8	49.7	51.9	39.3	42.8	39.7	47.8
4–6 days	19.2	20.2	20.6	17.2	19.5	18.5	18.6	19.7	16.8
7 days	14.9	17.4	14.3	14.1	11.7	26.4	18.7	21.4	14.4
Walk or bicycle 30 or more minutes	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
None	35.5	28.3	33.5	41.4	34.7	39.6	34.7	33.4	36.9
1–3 days	31.2	30.7	32.2	30.4	32.9	28.2	26.2	26.9	25.1
4–6 days	18.8	21.1	19.7	16.8	19.1	15.2	21.0	20.6	21.6
7 days	14.5	19.9	14.6	11.5	13.3	17.0	18.1	19.1	16.5
Baseball or frisbee	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
None	77.6	61.6	76.2	87.5	76.6	83.3	76.6	74.9	79.3
1–3 days	15.5	23.8	16.5	10.0	16.5	10.6	15.8	16.6	14.5
4–6 days	4.9	10.3	5.1	1.8	4.9	4.3	5.5	6.5	4.0
7 days	2.1	4.3	2.2	0.7	2.1	1.9	2.1	2.0	*2.3
Basketball, football, and/or soccer	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
None	54.1	27.6	47.0	75.4	55.3	50.4	52.9	52.3	53.9
1–3 days	24.8	33.1	27.3	17.6	25.1	23.2	24.7	24.0	25.7
4–6 days	13.0	22.7	15.9	5.0	12.5	14.5	13.8	14.0	13.4
7 days	8.1	16.7	9.8	1.8	7.1	11.9	8.7	9.7	7.0
Skating, skateboarding, and/or skiing	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
None	86.7	75.0	86.9	92.8	84.9	91.0	90.2	90.5	89.6
1–3 days	10.2	19.4	9.8	5.8	11.6	7.2	7.5	6.8	8.6
4–6 days	1.9	3.7	1.9	1.0	2.1	1.4	1.3	1.8	*0.6
7 days	1.1	2.0	1.4	0.4	1.4	*0.4	*1.0	*0.9	*1.3
Jog or swim for exercise	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
None	44.7	24.4	37.5	62.6	44.2	47.6	46.4	43.4	51.1
1–3 days	31.0	36.1	32.5	26.7	31.4	29.1	29.7	30.6	28.4
4–6 days	16.1	23.4	20.4	8.0	16.6	13.6	15.0	16.0	13.4
7 days	8.2	16.1	9.6	2.7	7.8	9.7	8.9	10.0	7.0
Tennis, racquetball, and/or squash	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
None	89.5	86.5	87.8	92.7	88.5	94.6	91.9	91.0	93.5
1–3 days	7.9	10.0	8.8	6.0	9.0	3.7	5.5	6.3	4.2
4–6 days	2.0	2.9	2.3	1.1	1.9	1.4	1.9	2.0	*1.7
7 days	0.6	*0.6	1.1	*0.2	0.7	*0.3	*0.7	*0.8	*0.6

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 10: Percent distribution of youth 12–21 years of age by participation in selected physical activities in past week, according to sex, age, Hispanic origin, and race for youth of non-Hispanic origin: United States, 1992—Con.

Participation in selected physical activities	All ages 12–21 years	Age			Non-Hispanic origin		Hispanic origin		
		12–13 years	14–17 years	18–21 years	White	Black	All Hispanic	Mexican American[1]	Other Hispanic[2]
Both sexes[3]—Con.	Percent distribution								
Aerobics or dance	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
None	61.8	56.5	60.3	66.3	65.0	50.7	58.0	60.5	54.0
1–3 days	26.3	27.6	25.6	26.4	24.9	30.6	28.9	27.8	30.9
4–6 days	7.7	9.8	9.1	5.3	7.0	10.7	8.6	8.2	9.3
7 days	4.1	6.2	5.0	2.0	3.1	8.0	4.4	3.6	5.8
Male[3]									
Number of physical activities in past week	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
None	2.7	*1.0	1.6	4.9	2.9	2.5	2.8	*3.1	*2.2
1–2 activities	13.9	6.5	10.0	22.1	14.9	11.6	12.9	12.9	13.0
3–4 activities	27.2	18.0	24.5	35.2	27.0	28.3	27.8	24.5	33.4
5 activities or more	56.1	74.5	63.8	37.8	55.2	57.6	56.5	59.5	51.4
Took part in activities that caused sweating/hard breathing in past week	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
None[4]	20.7	11.8	14.9	31.6	21.3	17.7	21.4	20.6	22.9
1 or 2 days	19.1	16.0	16.2	23.9	18.5	19.6	21.9	21.0	23.4
3 days or more	60.2	72.2	68.9	44.5	60.2	62.7	56.7	58.4	53.7
Participated in past week:									
Stretching exercises	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
None	33.1	21.1	29.6	43.4	33.4	36.3	31.0	30.5	31.9
1–3 days	29.9	33.3	26.9	31.3	29.1	31.3	30.8	30.0	32.1
4–6 days	23.3	28.2	27.1	16.5	23.7	19.8	25.9	26.2	25.4
7 days	13.7	17.5	16.3	8.8	13.8	12.6	12.3	13.3	10.5
Exercises for muscles	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
None	29.5	20.8	24.1	39.8	29.9	31.3	27.5	26.1	29.8
1–3 days	28.2	28.8	27.3	28.7	28.0	28.0	28.7	29.4	27.4
4–6 days	27.7	30.8	30.9	22.7	27.7	25.1	28.4	27.6	29.8
7 days	14.7	19.5	17.7	8.8	14.3	15.5	15.4	16.8	13.0
House cleaning or yard work 30 or more minutes	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
None	21.9	19.8	20.0	25.1	21.2	20.7	28.2	25.7	32.7
1–3 days	51.5	47.9	51.9	53.1	54.5	41.4	47.2	46.2	49.1
4–6 days	16.9	18.4	18.4	14.5	16.9	18.8	13.9	14.8	12.4
7 days	9.7	14.0	9.7	7.3	7.4	19.1	10.7	13.4	5.8
Walk or bicycle 30 or more minutes	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
None	36.1	27.5	33.0	44.1	37.2	35.4	32.0	30.8	34.0
1–3 days	28.5	28.0	29.9	27.2	29.0	29.7	24.5	24.7	24.0
4–6 days	18.5	20.7	19.6	16.0	18.0	15.6	23.3	21.9	25.9
7 days	17.0	23.7	17.5	12.7	15.8	19.3	20.3	22.6	16.1
Baseball or frisbee	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
None	72.8	56.7	71.5	83.0	71.6	79.2	73.4	71.7	76.1
1–3 days	17.7	23.6	19.1	12.9	18.7	12.4	17.7	19.1	15.2
4–6 days	6.6	13.7	6.4	2.8	6.7	5.8	6.2	6.8	*5.2
7 days	3.0	6.0	3.1	1.3	3.1	2.6	2.7	*2.3	*3.5
Basketball, football, and/or soccer	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
None	38.3	17.8	29.3	59.0	41.4	28.7	35.0	35.6	34.2
1–3 days	29.9	29.3	31.8	28.3	29.5	29.5	31.2	30.1	33.3
4–6 days	19.0	28.6	23.2	9.2	18.0	22.7	19.7	19.7	19.9
7 days	12.8	24.3	15.7	3.5	11.2	19.1	14.0	14.7	12.7
Skating, skateboarding, and/or skiing	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
None	84.1	72.2	83.4	91.5	81.3	91.2	88.6	88.8	88.2
1–3 days	11.5	20.3	11.8	6.3	13.5	6.6	8.1	7.3	9.5
4–6 days	2.6	4.4	2.7	1.6	3.0	*1.7	*1.9	*2.7	*0.6
7 days	1.8	3.0	2.1	*0.6	2.2	*0.5	*1.3	*1.2	*1.6

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 10: Percent distribution of youth 12–21 years of age by participation in selected physical activities in past week, according to sex, age, Hispanic origin, and race for youth of non-Hispanic origin: United States, 1992—Con.

Participation in selected physical activities	All ages 12–21 years	Age			Non-Hispanic origin		Hispanic origin		
		12–13 years	14–17 years	18–21 years	White	Black	All Hispanic	Mexican American[1]	Other Hispanic[2]
Male[3]—Con.					Percent distribution				
Jog or swim for exercise	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
None	42.4	26.8	35.5	58.4	43.3	41.3	42.5	40.2	46.8
1–3 days	30.7	33.0	31.2	28.8	30.4	30.0	31.4	31.8	30.8
4–6 days	17.6	24.2	22.0	9.3	17.7	17.1	15.8	16.8	14.1
7 days	9.3	16.0	11.3	3.5	8.6	11.6	10.2	11.3	8.4
Tennis, racquetball, and/or squash	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
None	88.3	86.3	87.3	90.4	86.9	93.8	92.2	91.7	93.1
1–3 days	8.8	9.9	9.0	7.9	10.1	3.8	5.8	6.4	*4.8
4–6 days	2.2	3.4	2.3	1.4	2.2	2.0	*1.0	*0.8	*1.4
7 days	0.8	*0.4	1.4	*0.4	0.8	*0.3	*0.9	*1.0	*0.9
Aerobics or dance	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
None	77.4	75.2	78.1	77.9	82.2	61.5	73.1	75.1	69.7
1–3 days	17.4	18.3	16.0	18.3	14.3	27.3	20.7	19.9	22.0
4–6 days	3.5	4.4	3.8	2.6	2.6	6.9	3.3	*2.4	*4.8
7 days	1.8	2.1	2.2	1.3	0.9	4.3	2.9	*2.5	*3.5
Female[3]									
Number of physical activities in past week	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
None	1.6	*0.8	1.5	2.2	1.5	1.9	*1.8	*2.9	*0.4
1–2 activities	20.2	6.1	15.9	31.5	18.4	26.5	20.9	20.2	21.9
3–4 activities	27.0	18.4	23.7	34.4	26.7	28.5	27.2	26.1	28.7
5 activities or more	51.2	74.7	58.9	32.0	53.3	43.1	50.0	50.8	49.0
Took part in activities that caused sweating/hard breathing in past week	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
None[4]	29.3	14.4	23.9	42.0	26.5	38.4	34.0	35.2	32.1
1 or 2 days	23.6	20.8	22.4	26.1	24.5	19.3	24.4	23.6	25.4
3 days or more	47.1	64.8	53.7	31.9	49.0	42.3	41.7	41.3	42.4
Participated in past week:									
Stretching exercises	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
None	30.9	16.6	25.7	43.1	28.7	41.1	30.6	31.5	29.3
1–3 days	34.0	33.9	33.6	34.5	34.1	33.0	36.3	34.9	38.5
4–6 days	23.3	30.7	27.1	16.0	24.8	16.9	22.1	23.3	20.2
7 days	11.8	18.8	13.6	6.4	12.4	9.0	11.0	10.3	12.0
Exercises for muscles	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
None	44.5	33.8	38.6	55.5	42.1	55.3	46.2	45.9	46.5
1–3 days	29.3	31.0	30.0	27.9	30.2	26.9	26.7	26.0	27.8
4–6 days	18.3	22.0	22.0	13.0	19.4	11.9	19.8	19.0	20.9
7 days	7.9	13.1	9.4	3.7	8.3	5.9	7.4	9.1	*4.9
House cleaning or yard work 30 or more minutes	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
None	12.5	11.8	12.3	12.9	12.8	10.9	10.8	11.7	9.7
1–3 days	45.9	45.1	45.7	46.5	49.2	37.1	38.1	32.3	46.5
4–6 days	21.5	22.1	23.0	19.8	22.0	18.2	23.7	25.5	21.1
7 days	20.1	21.0	19.0	20.8	16.0	33.9	27.4	30.6	22.7
Walk or bicycle 30 or more minutes	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
None	34.9	29.1	33.9	38.8	32.2	43.9	37.7	36.3	39.7
1–3 days	34.0	33.6	34.7	33.5	36.8	26.7	28.1	29.5	26.0
4–6 days	19.2	21.4	19.8	17.4	20.2	14.8	18.6	19.3	17.5
7 days	11.9	15.9	11.6	10.3	10.8	14.6	15.7	14.9	16.8
Baseball or frisbee	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
None	82.5	66.7	81.1	91.8	81.6	87.4	80.1	78.6	82.2
1–3 days	13.2	24.0	13.7	7.2	14.2	8.7	13.8	13.7	13.9
4–6 days	3.2	6.8	3.8	0.9	3.1	2.8	4.7	6.1	*2.7
7 days	1.1	2.5	1.4	*0.1	1.1	*1.1	*1.4	*1.6	*1.1

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 10: Percent distribution of youth 12–21 years of age by participation in selected physical activities in past week, according to sex, age, Hispanic origin, and race for youth of non-Hispanic origin: United States, 1992—Con.

Participation in selected physical activities	All ages 12–21 years	Age			Non-Hispanic origin		Hispanic origin		
		12–13 years	14–17 years	18–21 years	White	Black	All Hispanic	Mexican American[1]	Other Hispanic[2]
Female[3]—Con.					Percent distribution				
Basketball, football, and/or soccer	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
None	70.3	37.9	65.5	91.2	69.3	72.5	72.2	71.6	73.1
1–3 days	19.5	37.2	22.6	7.6	20.7	16.8	17.6	17.0	18.4
4–6 days	7.0	16.4	8.3	0.9	6.9	6.2	7.3	7.5	7.2
7 days	3.3	8.6	3.6	*0.2	3.1	4.5	2.9	4.0	*1.4
Skating, skateboarding, and/or skiing	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
None	89.4	77.9	90.7	94.0	88.5	90.8	91.8	92.5	90.8
1–3 days	8.9	18.3	7.7	5.4	9.7	7.7	6.8	6.3	7.5
4–6 days	1.1	2.8	1.0	*0.4	1.2	*1.2	*0.7	*0.8	*0.6
7 days	0.5	*0.9	*0.6	*0.2	0.6	*0.3	*0.7	*0.5	*1.0
Jog or swim for exercise	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
None	47.0	21.9	39.6	66.7	45.1	53.9	50.5	47.1	55.4
1–3 days	31.3	39.4	33.9	24.7	32.3	28.2	28.0	29.1	26.3
4–6 days	14.6	22.6	18.6	6.8	15.5	10.0	14.1	15.2	12.6
7 days	7.1	16.1	7.9	1.8	7.0	7.8	7.4	8.5	5.7
Tennis, racquetball, and/or squash	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
None	90.7	86.8	88.3	95.0	90.0	95.5	91.6	90.1	93.9
1–3 days	7.1	10.0	8.7	4.1	7.9	3.5	5.1	6.1	*3.7
4–6 days	1.7	2.4	2.3	0.8	1.5	*0.8	2.9	*3.4	*1.9
7 days	0.5	*0.9	0.7	*0.1	0.5	*0.3	*0.4	*0.5	*0.4
Aerobics or dance	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
None	46.1	36.5	41.7	55.0	47.9	39.7	41.7	43.6	38.9
1–3 days	35.4	37.4	35.7	34.1	35.5	34.0	37.9	36.8	39.5
4–6 days	12.1	15.5	14.6	8.0	11.4	14.7	14.3	14.8	13.6
7 days	6.4	10.5	8.0	2.8	5.3	11.7	6.1	4.9	8.0

[1]Includes Mexican/Mexicano, Mexican American, and Chicano.

[2]Includes Puerto Rican, Cuban, other Latin American, other Spanish, and multiple Hispanic origin (see appendixes I and II).

[3]Includes non-Hispanic racial groups not shown separately and unknown if Hispanic origin.

[4]Includes youth who took part in no activities.

NOTE: Denominators exclude unknowns.

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Appendix I
Technical notes on methods

Target population

The estimates presented in this report are based on data from the 1992 National Health Interview Survey of Youth Risk Behavior (NHIS-YRBS). The basic National Household Interview Survey (NHIS) is a continuous, nationwide, household interview survey of the civilian, noninstitutionalized population of the United States, conducted by the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

The NHIS-YRBS was a followback survey of a subsample of youth 12–21 years of age identified at the time of the 1992 NHIS household interviews. Within each NHIS sample family, one youth who was attending school and up to two youth who were not in school or whose in-school status was unknown were selected for the NHIS-YRBS interview. The youth were followed back approximately 2 months after the initial household interview. NHIS-YRBS interviews were conducted in person from April 1992 through March 1993. The ages shown in this report represent the youth ages at the time of the initial NHIS interview, which, in some cases, may not be the same as their ages at the time of the NHIS-YRBS interview due to the 2-month lag between the two data collection points.

Limitations of data on Hispanic origin and race

Data are presented for youth of non-Hispanic and Hispanic origins. Data for non-Hispanic youth are shown separately for white and black youth. Data could not be presented for other racial groups because of sample sizes. Each of the other specific racial groups identified in the survey (see appendix II) represented 1 percent or less of the sample. White youth constituted 74.6 percent and black youth 16.2 percent of the NHIS-YRBS sample.

Because over 90 percent of persons of Hispanic origin identify their race as white (Census, P–25), data for Hispanic youth is presented for all races combined. Small sample sizes preclude meaningful statistical interpretation for nonwhite Hispanic youth.

Sample size limitations for specific subgroups of Hispanic youth were also a factor in the analysis and presentation of data. Several Hispanic subgroups were identified in the NHIS-YRBS (see appendix II) but Mexican American youth were the only group that was sufficiently large to make meaningful statistical interpretations. Mexican American youth (identified as Mexican-Mexicano, Mexican-American, or Chicano) constituted 11.3 percent of the total and 63.1 percent of the Hispanic NHIS-YRBS sample. Puerto Rican youth were 2.3 percent and Cuban youth were 0.4 percent of the total sample. Other Latin American, other Spanish, and multiple Hispanic youth were each less than 2 percent of the NHIS-YRBS sample.

Description of the survey

The purpose of the NHIS-YRBS was to provide estimates of health risk behaviors for the noninstitutionalized, household population of youth 12–21 years of age. Topics covered in the YRBS include: tobacco use—including cigarettes, chewing tobacco, and snuff; alcohol consumption; illegal drug use and perceptions of risks associated with their occasional and regular use; sexual history and practices; HIV/AIDS education at home and in school; runaway and homeless experiences such as overnight stays away from home and stays away from home without permission; violence, such as frequency of physical fighting and carrying weapons; unintentional injury control, including helmet use on bicycles and motorcycles; weight control; and physical activity. This survey is one part of a larger system of research, the Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System (YRBSS). The YRBSS was developed by the Division of Adolescent and School Health of the National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, CDC, in order to monitor the major risk behaviors of American youth. This system is described in detail elsewhere (3). The majority of the YRBSS is school-based and has been tracking behaviors of in-school youth since 1990. The 1992 NHIS-YRBS added a new dimension to the study of health risk behaviors among American youth. In addition to providing estimates for youth who attend school, it allowed estimation of high-risk behaviors for out-of-school youth. Out-of-school youth were oversampled in an effort to achieve reliable estimates for this particularly "hard-to-reach" group. A special question was added to the basic NHIS questionnaire in 1992 in order to determine school status for the YRBS sample.

Data collection methods

Interviews are conducted for NCHS by interviewing staff of the U.S. Bureau of the Census. The basic health and demographic questionnaire of the NHIS is administered in an

in-person household interview, with telephone followup permitted for hard-to-reach households. Basic health information is collected for every member of the family residing in the household. Based on the roster of family members listed at the time of interview, a subsample of youth was selected for the NHIS-YRBS.

During the development of the NHIS-YRBS, extensive methodological investigations were carried out by researchers at University of Michigan's Survey Research Center on behalf of NCHS, to determine the most appropriate data collection tools for gathering adolescent health behavior data (45). Results of these investigations indicated that privacy and confidentiality would be of paramount concern to teens during an interview. This strongly suggested that traditional NHIS data collection procedures—face-to-face and telephone interviews—might not be the best approaches to use with adolescents. NHIS also has used self-administered questionnaires occasionally. However, younger teens and those with poorer reading skills found a written questionnaire difficult to complete. The study determined that youth were quite comfortable using an audiocassette player to listen to questions and recording answers on a paper answer sheet. This was the method of data collection used for the NHIS-YRBS. In addition to providing privacy and being easier for poor readers, this mode of data collection had an added benefit of providing standardization in the asking of the questions, eliminating the normal variations that occur when an interviewer asks the questions. Each question was asked twice and youth could stop and rewind the tape as often as needed. Female youth listened to a female voice and male youth listened to a male voice. The interviewer was present while the youth was listening to the tape and filling out the questionnaire.

Response rates

Of the 13,789 persons 12–21 years of age identified as eligible in the basic NHIS interview, NHIS-YRBS interviews were completed for 10,645 youth, representing a response rate of 77.2 percent of eligible respondents and an overall response rate of 73.9 percent (the product of the YRBS response rate—77.2 percent and the response rate for the basic NHIS household interview— 95.7 percent). Due to some field difficulties in rostering eligible youth, the number of teens actually selected for the NHIS-YRBS was somewhat smaller than the number of youth ultimately identified as having been eligible for interview. Hence, the response rate for the NHIS-YRBS was somewhat lower than it might have been had all eligible youth been given the opportunity to respond. Another factor that may have contributed to a lower than average response rate, for the NHIS, was the requirement that interviews be done in person. Because of the personal audiocassette method of data collection, telephone followup was not permitted for the NHIS-YRBS. Comparison of respondents and nonrespondents indicated that the two groups were not substantially different in terms of their sociodemographic profiles. Item nonresponse ranged from 0.2 percent to 7.9 percent for the questions discussed in this report.

Sample design and statistical testing

The NHIS sample is selected such that a national probability sample of households is interviewed each week throughout the year. A detailed discussion of the sample design is available in *Current Estimates from the National Health Interview Survey, 1992* (43).

Because the estimates shown in this report are based on a sample, they are subject to sampling error. A measure of the sampling error is given by the standard error. Approximate standard errors for estimated percents in this report are given by the formula

$$SE(p) = \sqrt{\frac{(4{,}490\,p)\ (1-p)}{y}}$$

where SE is the standard error, p is the estimated percent and y is the estimated base of the percent. The bases of the percents are shown in tables I and II.

The approximate standard error of a difference between percents is given by the formula

$$SE(x_1 - x_2) = \sqrt{SE(x_1)^2 + SE(x_2)^2}$$

where x_1 and x_2 are the two percents being compared, $x_1 - x_2$ is the difference between them, and $SE(x_1)$ and $SE(x_2)$ are the standard errors of the two percents.

In this report, terms such as "similar" and "no difference" mean that there is no statistically significant difference between the measures being compared. Terms relating to difference (for example, "greater than" or "less than") indi-

Table I. Number of youth 12–21 years of age by sex, age, Hispanic origin, and race for youth of non-Hispanic origin: United States, 1992

Age, Hispanic origin, and race	Both sexes	Sex	
		Male	Female
	Number in thousands		
All youth, 12–21 years of age[1]	34,356	17,332	17,024
12–13 years	7,232	3,727	3,506
14–17 years	13,517	6,916	6,601
18–21 years	13,607	6,690	6,917
16–21 years	20,201	10,044	10,157
16–17 years	6,593	3,354	3,239
Hispanic origin and race for youth of non-Hispanic origin			
12–21 years of age:			
Non-Hispanic white	23,220	11,614	11,605
Non-Hispanic black	5,194	2,617	2,577
All Hispanic	4,324	2,238	2,085
Mexican American[2]	2,675	1,430	1,245
Other Hispanic[3]	1,649	808	840
18–21 years of age:			
Non-Hispanic white	9,256	4,495	4,761
Non-Hispanic black	1,995	988	1,007
All Hispanic	1,679	874	805
Mexican American[2]	1,039	544	495
Other Hispanic[3]	640	329	310

[1]Includes non-Hispanic racial groups not shown separately and unknown if Hispanic origin.
[2]Includes Mexican/Mexicano, Mexican American, and Chicano.
[3]Includes Puerto Rican, Cuban, other Latin American, other Spanish, and multiple Hispanic origin (see Appendixes I and II).

cate that differences are statistically significant. Individual *t*-tests, with a critical value of 1.96 (0.05 level of significance), were used to test all comparisons. This strategy, though it highlights major findings, does not take into account hypothesis testing issues associated with multiple comparisons, where a statistic is potentially compared for more than two domains. Lack of comment regarding the difference between any two statistics does not mean the difference was tested and found to be not significant.

Availability of data and related data sources

The NHIS-YRBS is available on data tape from the Division of Health Interview Statistics and on CD-ROM from the U.S. Government Printing Office and from the National Technical Information Service. Contact the National Center for Health Statistics' Data Dissemination Branch for ordering information.

The NHIS-YRBS public-use data tape includes data for all questions included in the youth risk behavior questionnaire as well as all other health and demographic information gathered during the initial household interview. For youth 18–21 years, data from the NHIS-YRBS can be linked to other special topics that were part of the 1992 NHIS, including AIDS Knowledge and Attitudes, Cancer Control, Cancer Epidemiology, and Family Resources.

Table II. Number of never-married youth 14–21 years of age, by sex, age, Hispanic origin, and race for youth of non-Hispanic origin: United States, 1992

Age, Hispanic origin, and race	Both sexes	Sex	
		Male	Female
	Number in thousands		
All youth, 14–21 years of age[1]	23,986	12,520	11,467
14–15 years	6,458	3,302	3,157
16–17 years	6,384	3,264	3,120
18–21 years	11,144	5,953	5,191
Hispanic origin and race for youth of non-Hispanic origin			
14–21 years of age:			
Non-Hispanic white	16,052	8,341	7,711
Non-Hispanic black	3,830	1,914	1,916
All Hispanic	2,996	1,659	1,337
Mexican American[2]	1,805	1,038	767
Other Hispanic[3]	1,192	621	571
18–21 years of age:			
Non-Hispanic white	7,366	3,940	3,426
Non-Hispanic black	1,821	927	894
All Hispanic	1,361	765	597
Mexican American[2]	795	460	335
Other Hispanic[3]	566	305	261

[1]Includes non-Hispanic racial groups not shown separately and unknown if Hispanic origin.
[2]Includes Mexican/Mexicano, Mexican American, and Chicano.
[3]Includes Puerto Rican, Cuban, other Latin American, other Spanish, and multiple Hispanic origin (see Appendixes I and II).

Appendix II
Definition of certain terms used in this report

Sociodemographic terms

Age—The age recorded for each person is the age at last birthday. Age is recorded in single years and grouped in a variety of distributions for respondents depending on the purpose of the table. In this report, respondents who were 12–21 years of age at the time of the basic health and demographic survey interview were included. Age at the time of the NHIS-YRBS interview, which took place approximately 2 months after the basic NHIS interview, may differ by one year if the youth had a birthday in the interim.

Hispanic/Non-Hispanic Origin—Characterization of Hispanic/non-Hispanic origin is based on a question asked of the household respondent for each member of the household. The respondent was given a flashcard and asked "Are any of these groups (_____'s) national origin or ancestry?" The categories on the flashcard were (1) Puerto Rican, (2) Cuban, (3) Mexican/Mexicano, (4) Mexican American, (5) Chicano, (6) other Latin American, and (7) other Spanish. If the household respondent answered "yes" for a particular household member (that is, that the person did belong to one of the groups listed), the respondent was then asked "Please give me the number of the group." Persons identified as belonging to more than one group were classified as "Multiple Hispanic." When the household respondent answered "No" to the above question, the household member was classified as "Not Spanish origin," referred to in this report as "non-Hispanic origin." See Appendix I for further discussion.

Race—In this report, data for non-Hispanic youth are shown separately for youth whose racial designation is white or black. Non-Hispanic youth of other races are included in the total for all youth 12–21 years of age but are not shown separately. Characterization of race is based on a question asked of the household respondent for each household member. The respondent was given a flashcard and asked "What is the number of the group or groups which represents (_____'s) race?" The categories on the flashcard were: (1) white, (2) black, (3) Indian (American), (4) Eskimo, (5) Aleut, (6) Chinese, (7) Filipino, (8) Hawaiian, (9) Korean, (10) Vietnamese, (11) Japanese, (12) Asian Indian, (13) Samoan, (14) Guamanian, and (15) Other Asian/Pacific Islander. If the household respondent selected more than one racial group for a household member, the interviewer followed up with the question "Which of those groups BEST represents (_____'s) race?" See appendix I for further discussion.

Terms related to youth risk behaviors

Current smoker—smoked at least one cigarette in the past 30 days.

Regular smoker—smoked at least one cigarette a day for 30 days.

Quit attempts (smoking) in past 6 months—youth were asked if they had tried to quit smoking in the past 6 months. Those who volunteered that they had not smoked in the past 6 months were excluded from the denominator for this variable.

Chewing tobacco—includes products such as Redman, Levi Garrett, and Beechnut.

Snuff—includes products such as Skoal, Skoal Bandits, and Copenhagen.

Alcohol—includes beer, wine, wine coolers, and liquor such as rum, gin, vodka, and whiskey.

Ever drank alcohol—had a whole drink of alcohol, more than just a few sips.

Current drinker—had at least one drink of alcohol in the past 30 days.

Drinking and driving—denominator was restricted to youth who were at least 16 years of age, the minimum age (in most States) for unsupervised driving.

Illegal drugs—include marijuana, cocaine, crack, freebase, LSD, PCP, mushroom, speed, ice, heroin, pills without a doctor's prescription, steroids without a doctor's prescription, any injectable drugs, or anything else defined by the respondent as an illegal drug.

Other illegal drugs—include LSD, PCP, mushroom, speed, ice, heroin, pills without a doctor's prescription, or anything else defined by the respondent as an illegal drug. Question on "other illegal drugs" follows questions on marijuana, cocaine, crack, or freebase, and therefore implicitly excludes these drugs. It precedes questions on steroids without a doctor's prescription and use of any injectable drugs. Because of question placement, the respondent may or may not have considered these drugs when answering the question on "other illegal drugs."

All drug use statuses—includes all youth in the YRBS sample, including those for whom illegal drug use status was unknown.

Ever used drugs—includes youth who responded affirmatively to *any* of the illegal drug use questions.

Never used drugs—includes youth who responded negatively to *all* of the illegal drug use questions.

Sexually experienced—youth 14–21 years of age who had ever had sexual intercourse.

Contraceptive method—youth 14–21 years of age were asked which contraceptive method they or their partner had used to prevent pregnancy the last time they had sex. Only one method was accepted—condom, birth control pills, withdrawal, or some other method. Although withdrawal was listed as a contraceptive method it is considered an unreliable form of birth control.

Runaway and homeless experiences—youth 12–21 years were asked if they had stayed out overnight without permission during the past 12 months. Respondents were also asked, regardless of whether they needed permission, if they had spent at least one night in any of the following places within the last 12 months: a youth or adult shelter; a public place such as a train, bus station, restaurant, or office building; an abandoned building; a car, truck, or van; outside in a park, on the street, under a bridge or overhang, or on a roof top; in the subway, or other public place underground; or the home of someone they did not know. In this report, these places were classified as at-risk locations. These stays away from home were used as proxy measures for runaway and homeless experiences.

Type of weapon—includes handgun, other guns—such as a rifle or shotgun; knife or razor; club, stick, bat, or pipe; or some other weapon.

Weight control—trying to lose weight or stay the same.

Type of weight control attempts—include dieting, exercising, vomiting, taking diet pills, or some other method and are not mutually exclusive.

Vigorous exercise—exercise or sports that cause sweating and hard breathing, such as basketball, jogging, fast dancing, swimming laps, tennis, fast bicycling, or other aerobic activities.

Stretching exercises—include toe touching, knee bending, or leg stretching.

Muscle exercises—include push-ups, sit-ups, or weight lifting to strengthen or tone muscles.

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